





- one week delay, frustrating and exhausting
- 1000 parts, each unique in their role, all for one purpose
- it will not fix itself, there is work to be done
- this is my perspective on our work as a family, 1000s of people, each will a unique role, all with one purpose and work, the building of the global church.

# Family Updates

Week 41      Budget - \$383k      Received - \$302k

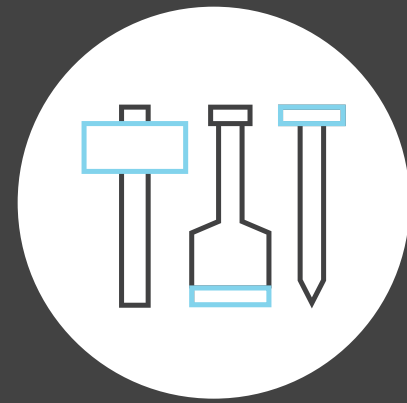
Conference      Goal - \$80k (from Ames DSM CityChurch)      Received - \$43k

BILD Conference and Executive Leadership Summit - Starts Wednesday

# The Coming 2017 Conference–Summit

Playing your part - Signup sheets are in the back!

- ~~Baked goods and purchased food - BOTH FULL~~
- Host homes (Annie Keller leading)
- **Airport transportation (Keith Cook leading) - NEED more**
- **Serving in kitchen with snacks (Julie Allen leading) - NEED more**
- **Setup crew (Brian Kilmer) - NEED more**
- **Serving Crew for Friday Evening, Nov 3 Banquet**



# The Gospels Series

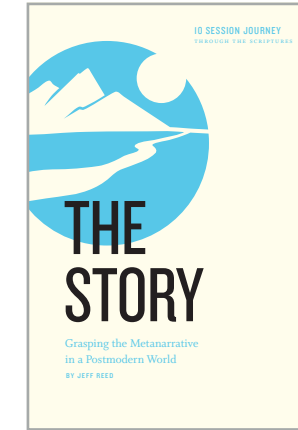
Examining the Intention of Jesus' Life and Ministry  
as Witnessed by the Writers of the Four Gospels

**MASTERING THE SCRIPTURES SERIES**

# The Story

## The First Principle Series

- First Principles of the Faith
- First Principles of Family Life
- First Principles of Establishing Churches



## Master the Scriptures

### Old Testament Collection

- Series 1 - The Law (2021)
- Series 2 - The Prophets (2023)
- Series 3 - The Writings (2025)

### New Testament Collection

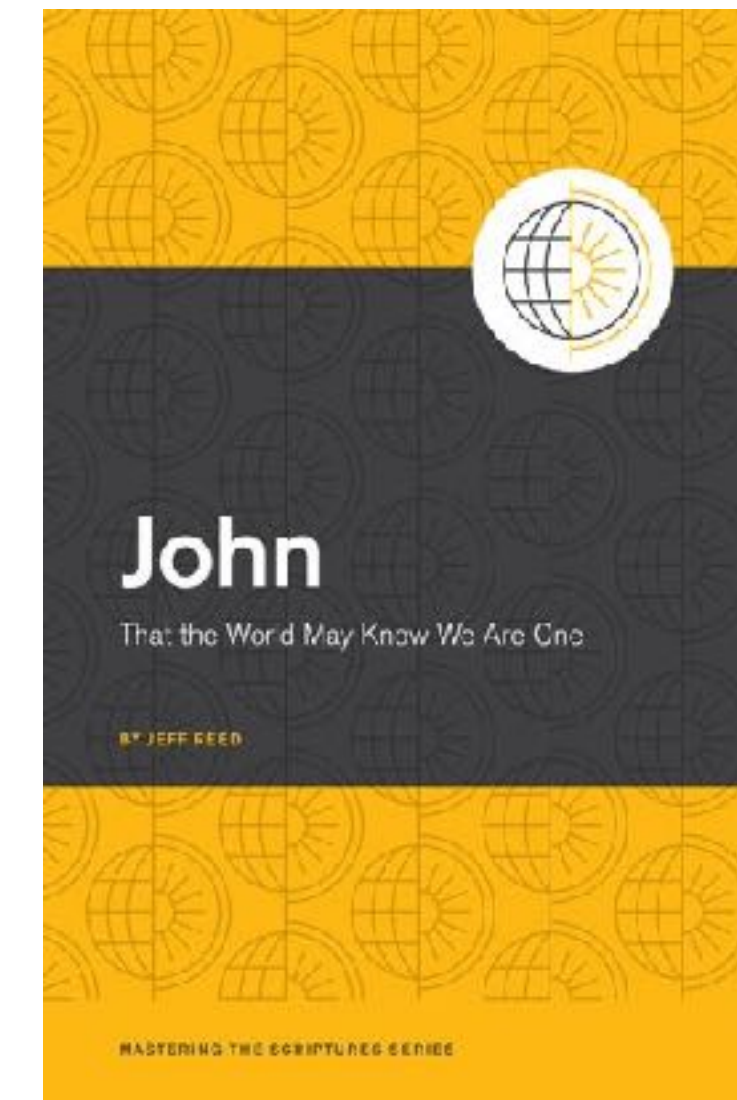
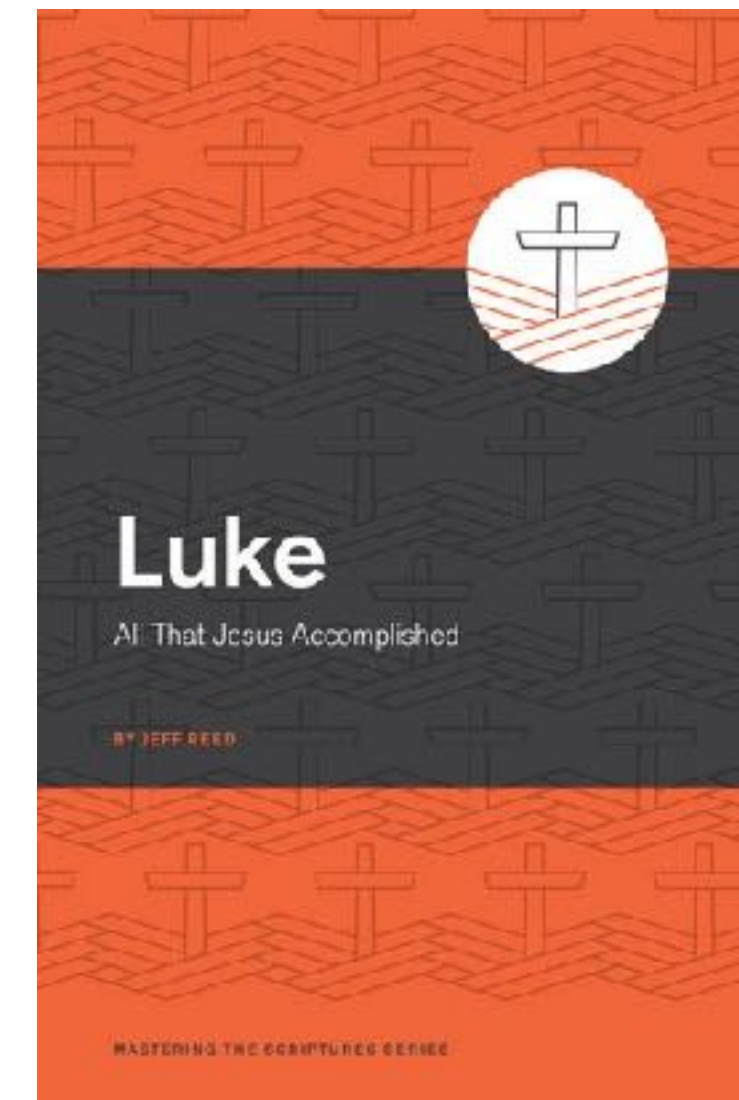
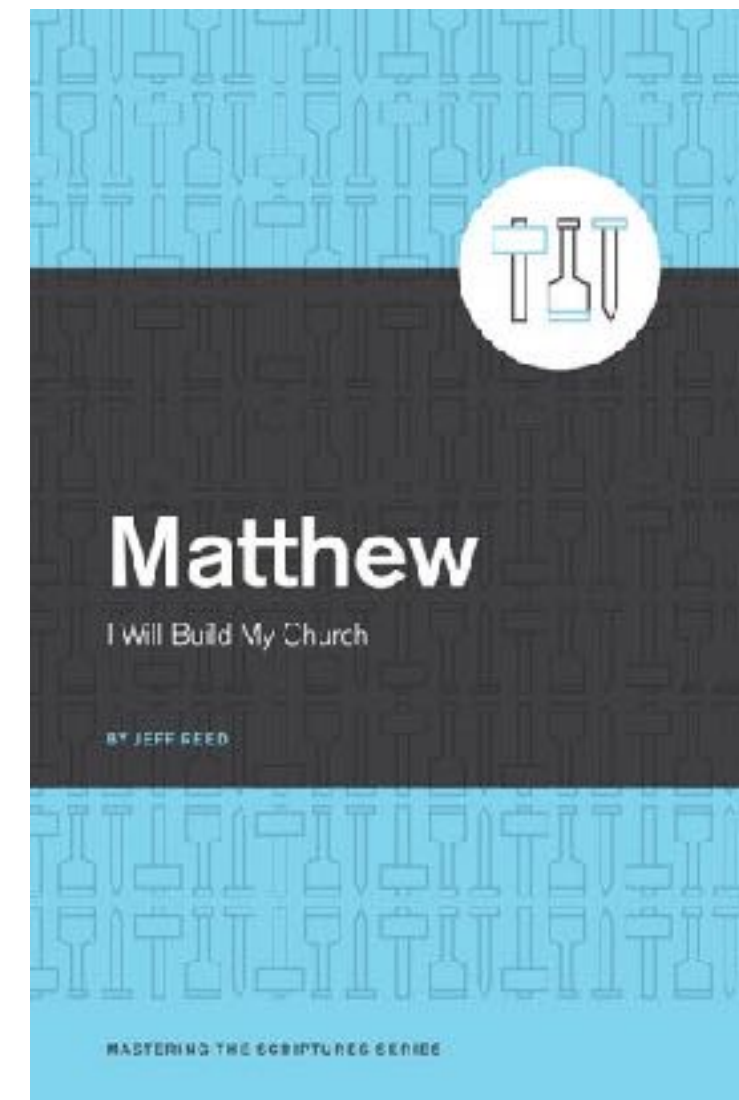
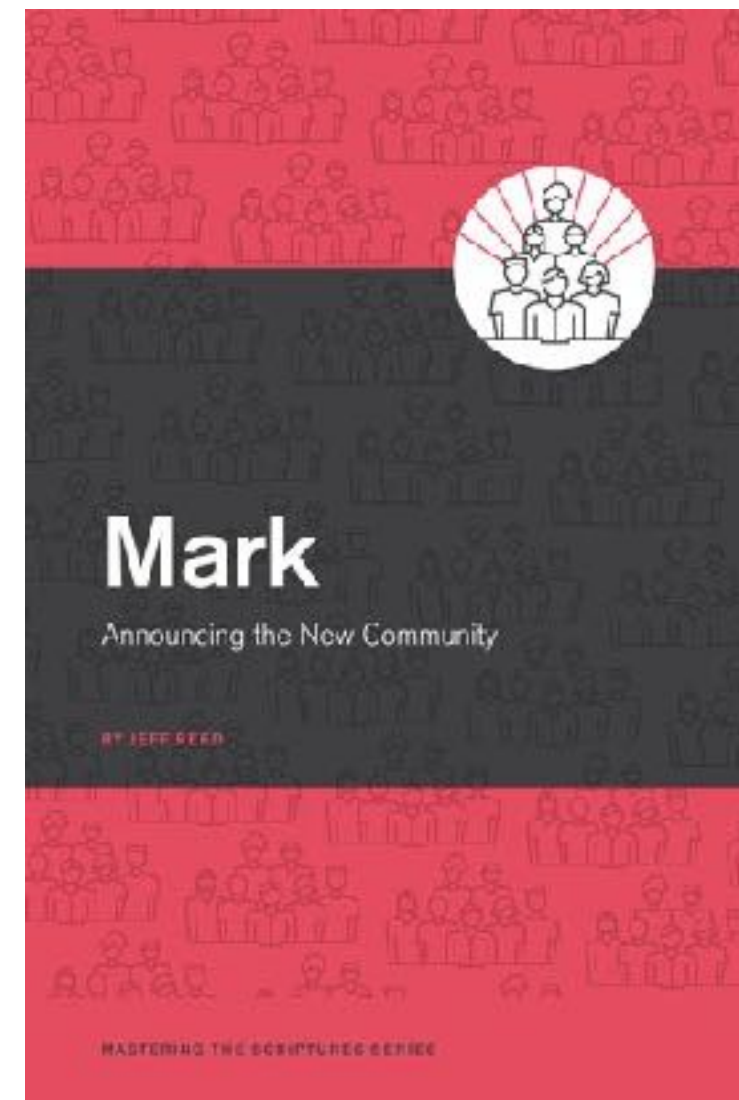
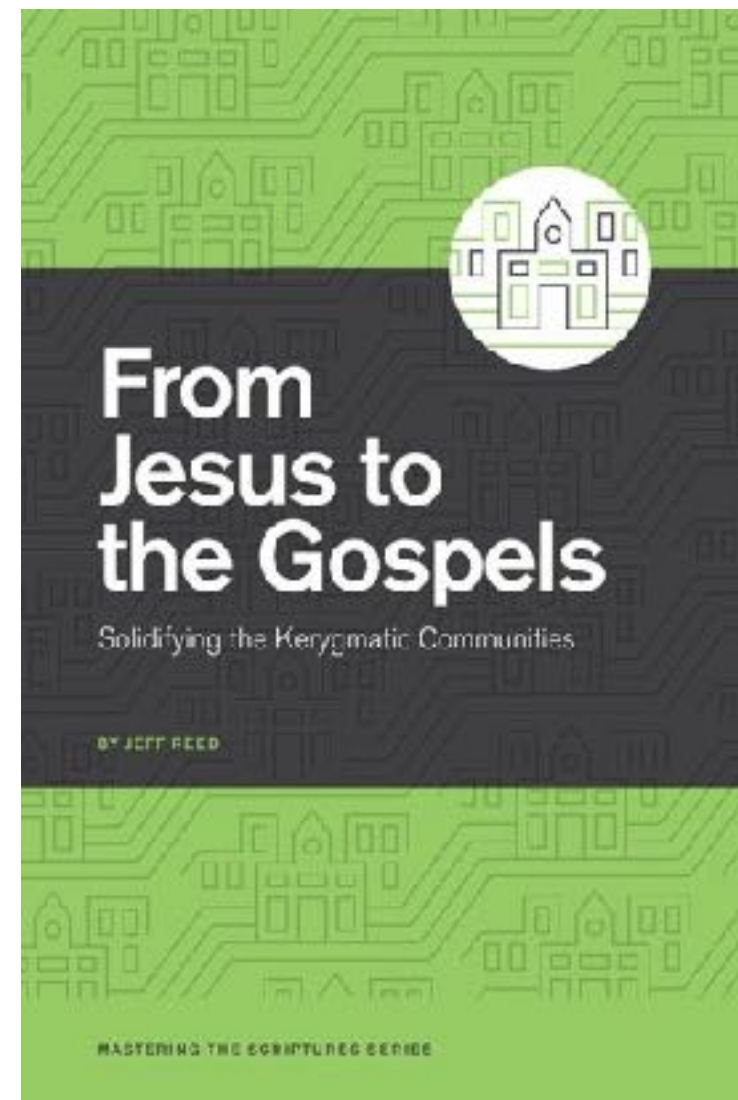
- Series 1 - The Gospels (2017)
- Series 2 - Paul's Early Letters (2018)
- Series 3 - Jewish Encyclicals (2019)
- Series 4 - Johannine Writings (2020)



## The Leadership Series - Establishing Churches & Theology in Culture



# The Gospels Series



Did everyone get a book from last week?

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<b>46</b> SESSION 4 THE NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY	<b>56</b> SESSION 5 THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW WE ARE ONE	<b>66</b> SESSION 6 RESHAPING OUR LIVES
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The World We Know We Are One 03

# John - Intention of John

Session 1 - Intention of John

Session 2 - Book of Signs

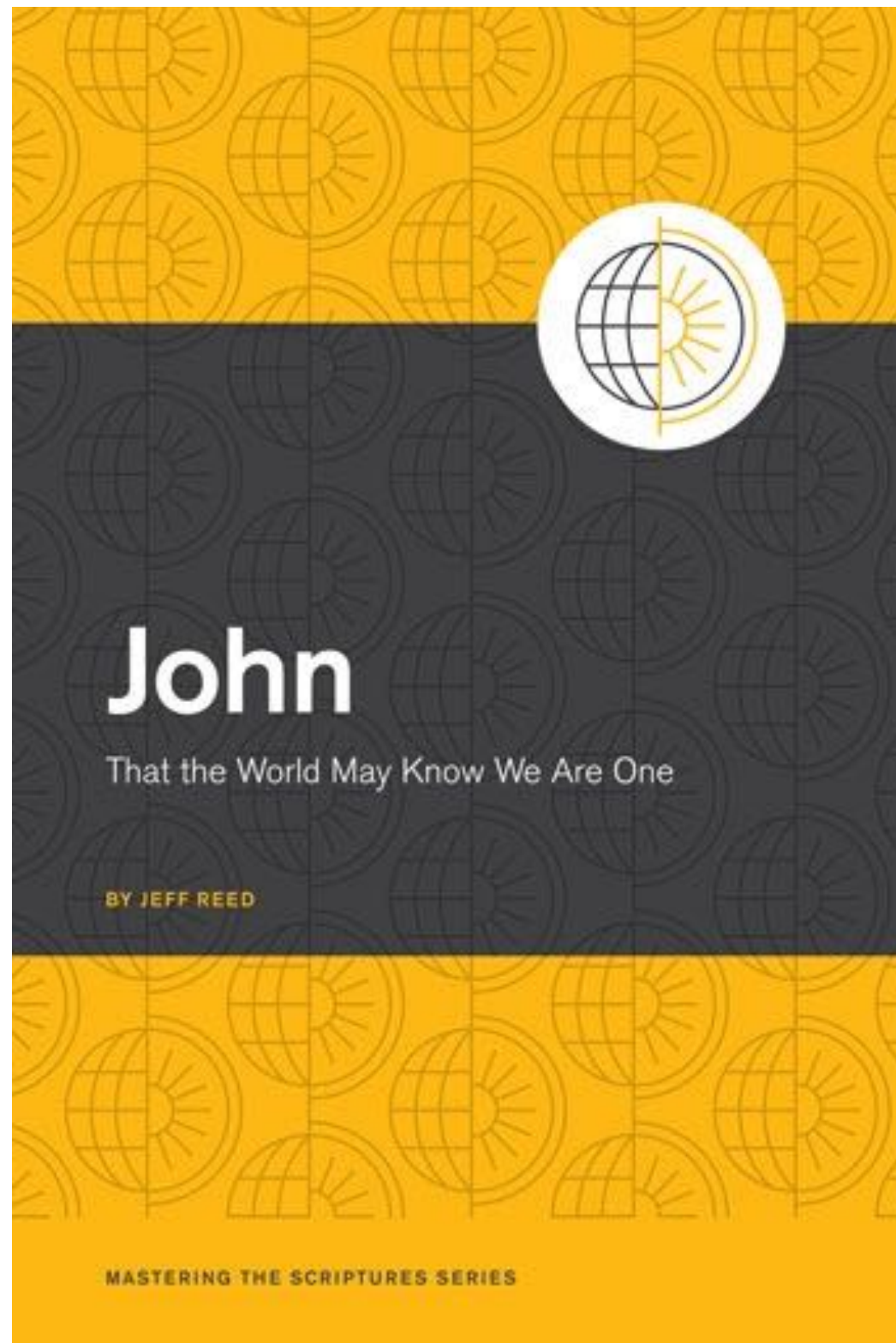
Session 3 - Upper Room Discourse

Session 4 - The New Community

Session 5 - The Global Church

Session 6 - Reshaping our Lives





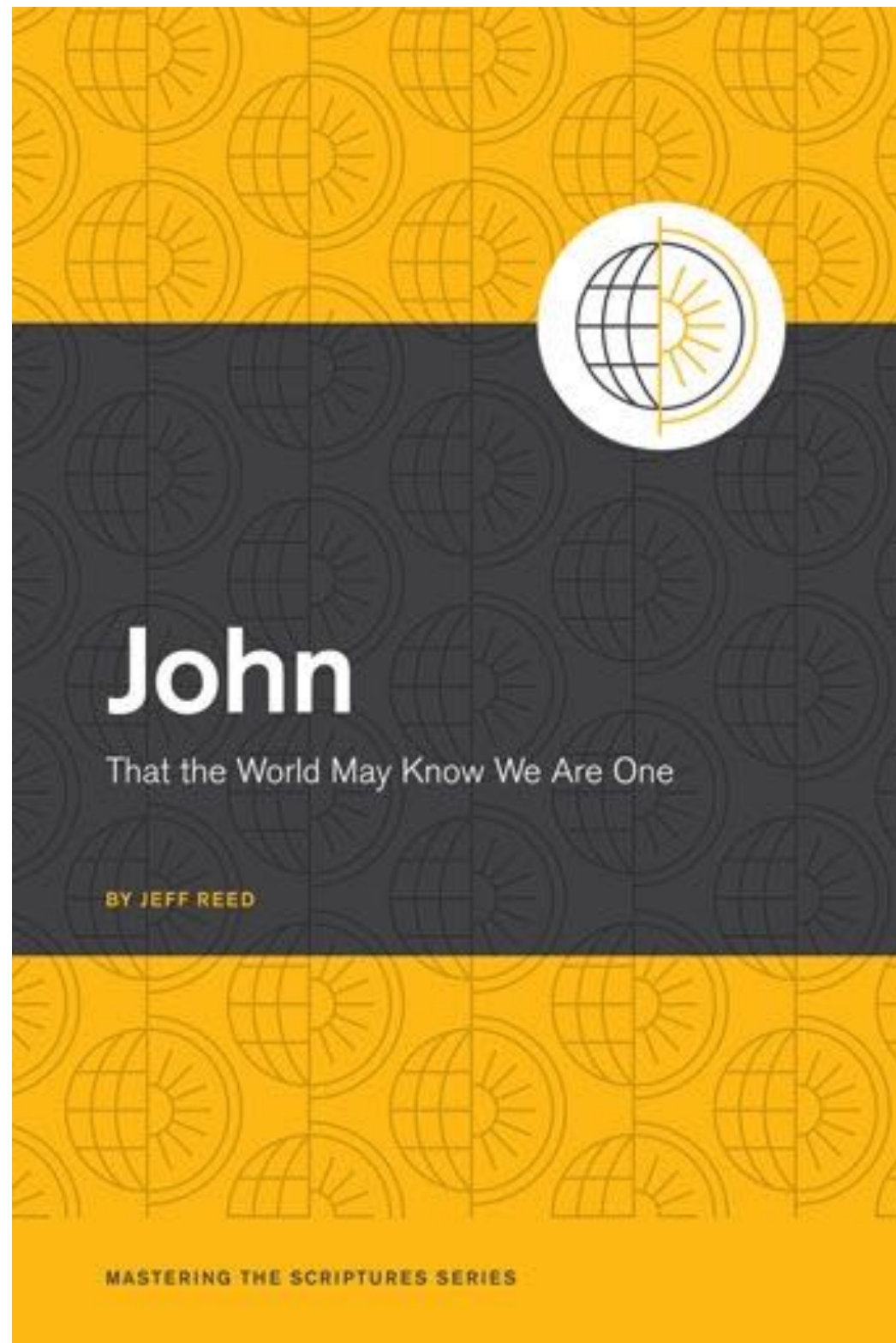
## John - Intention of John

John 20:30–31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 21:24–25

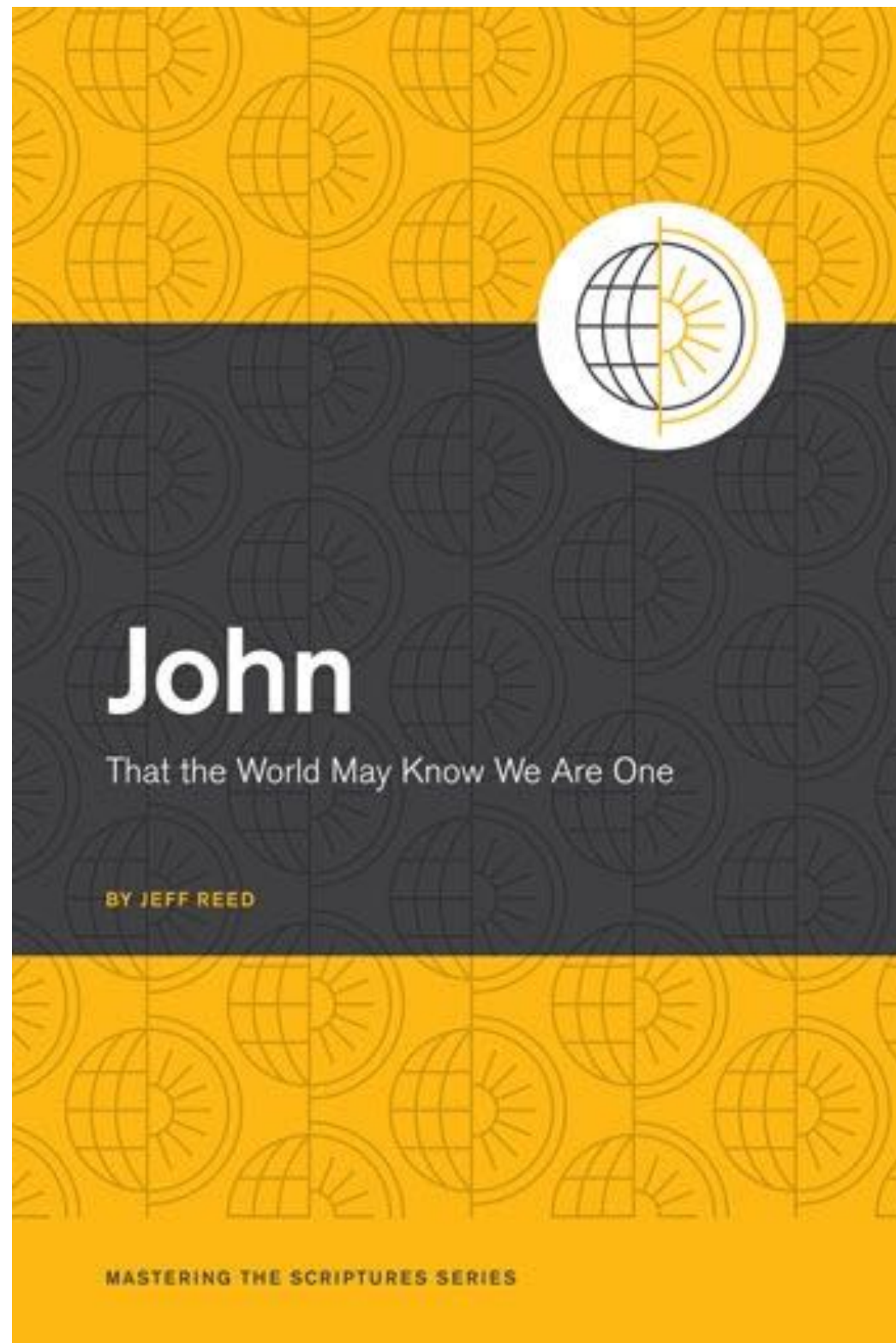
This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.



## John - Intention of John

John is different than the other gospels in that he does not use the words:

- The Church (eccleisa)
- Kingdom of God
- People of God
- Apostle



# John - Intention of John

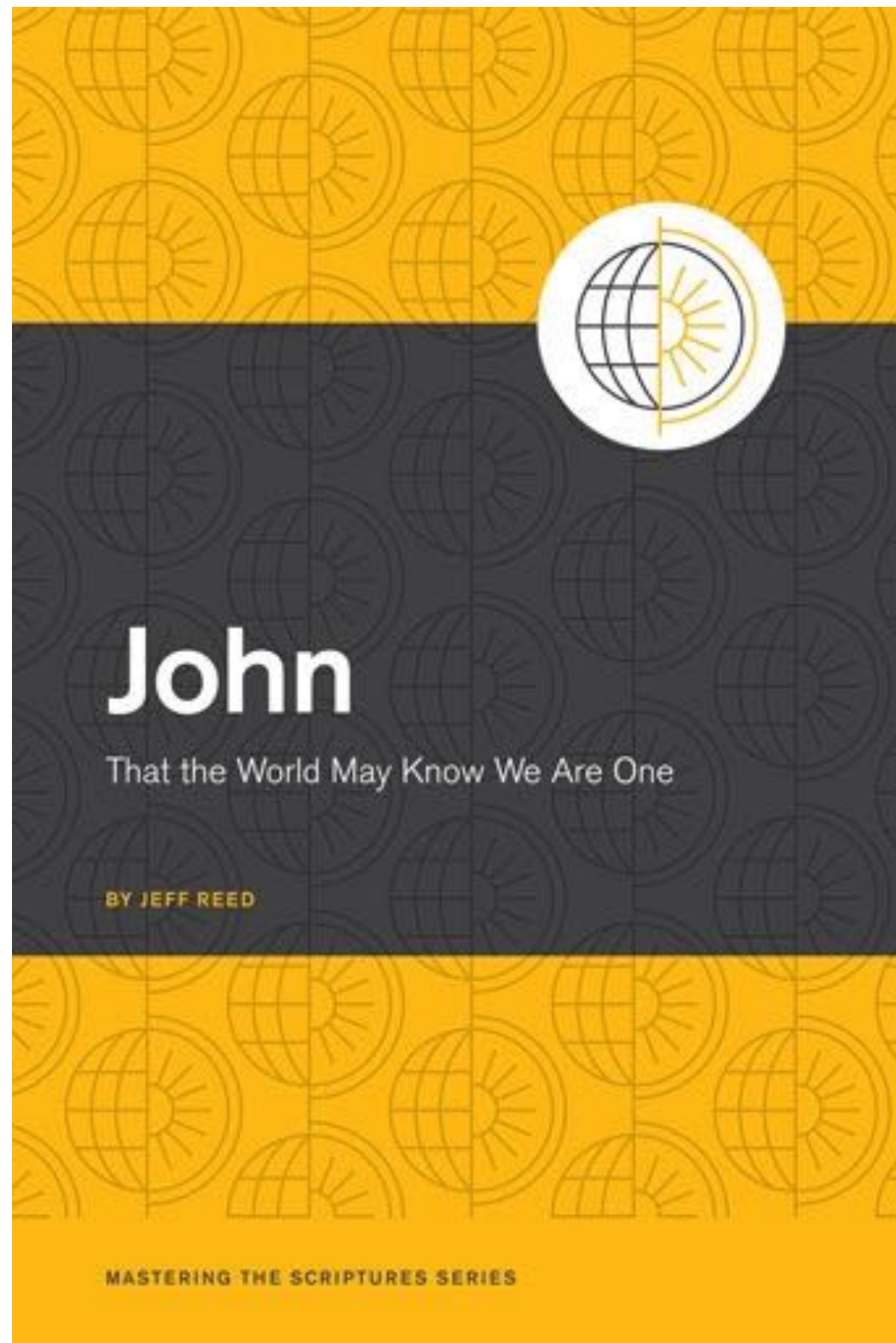
Written in a kerygmatic, Greco-Roman shape

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## Content analysis of John's Gospel

<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Percentage of Work</i>
1:1–18	Prologue	2.0
1:19–51	Beginnings and call of disciples	3.8
2–10	Ministry and Signs	48.6
11–12:11	Bethany	7.8
12:12–50	Entry into Jerusalem	4.5
13	Last Supper	4.3
14–17	Discourses	13.3
18–21	Passion and Resurrection	15.7

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# John - Intention of John

John in context of his writings

Revelation 2 - 3 - All seven churches are evaluated based on:

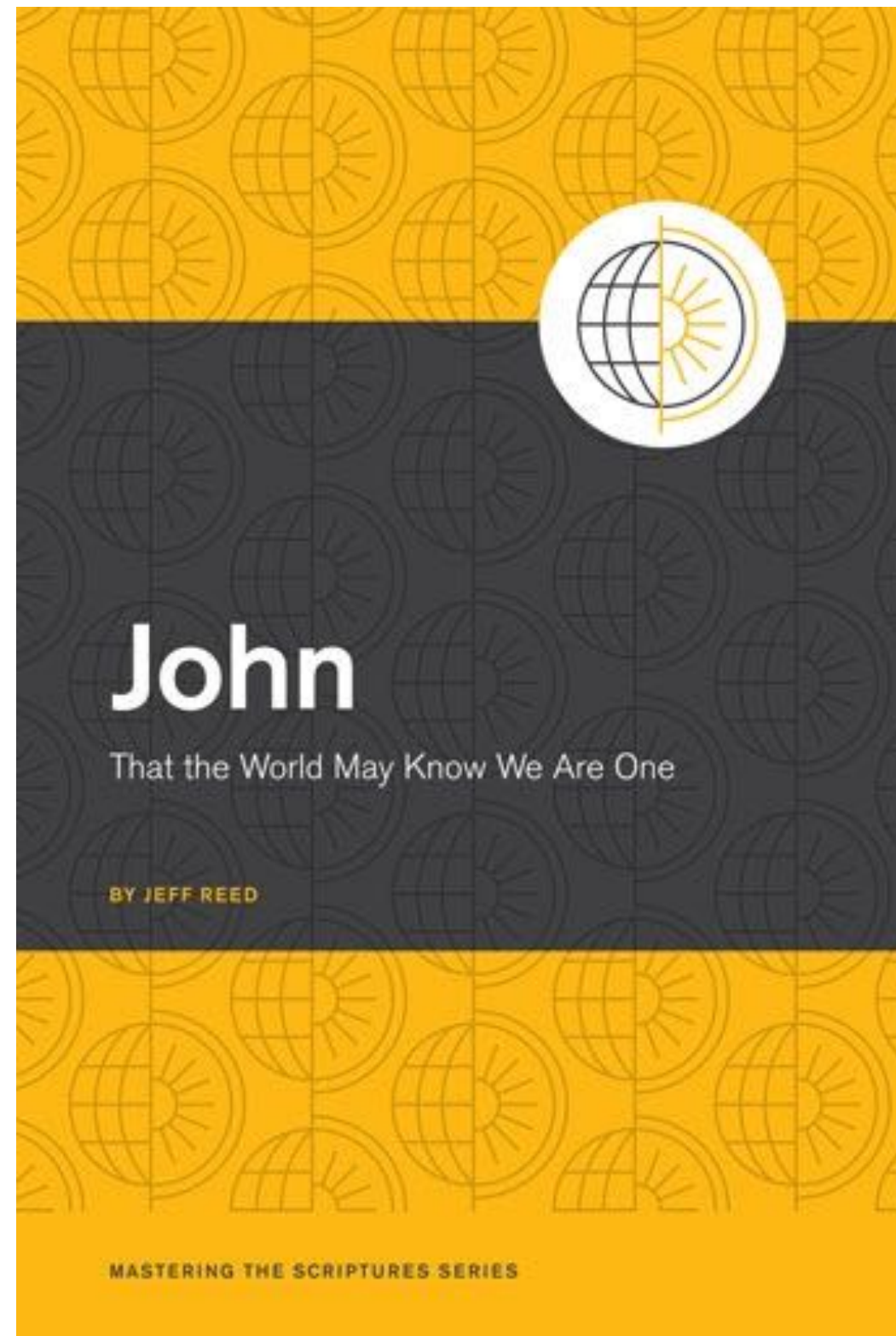
- If they have kept the word (the teaching, the commandments, the truth)
- If they have practiced the word

1 John

- They are instructed to test false apostles, stay in the truth, love one another

John 13-17 - Jesus lays out a new covenant for the new community:

- marked by love one another
- tells them to stay in the truth

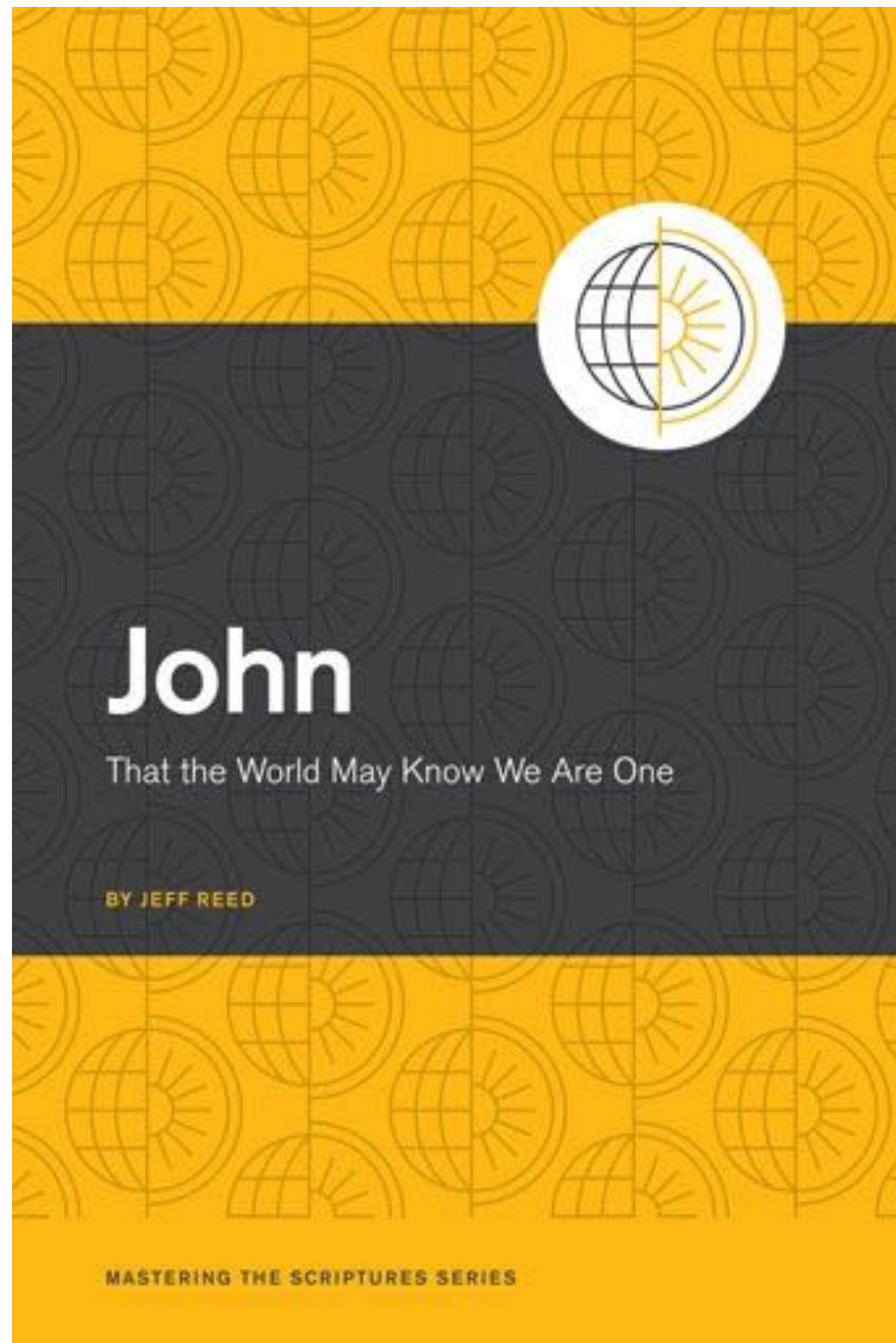


## John: Intention of John

John wanted them to believe that Jesus was the Messiah (to believe in the kerygma). He wanted the churches to fully embrace the gospel, test and avoid false teachings and to keep his commandment (the didache) by loving one another.

...everything is integrated...

John wrote to provide a full treatment of the kerygma for his network of churches, in terminology best suited for the Greco-Roman arguments undermining the gospel. He wrote so they might remain in the gospel and fully enter into the life now available to them, that the one new Church promised by Jesus might mature into the worldwide witness that would bring glory to God.



# Discussion Together

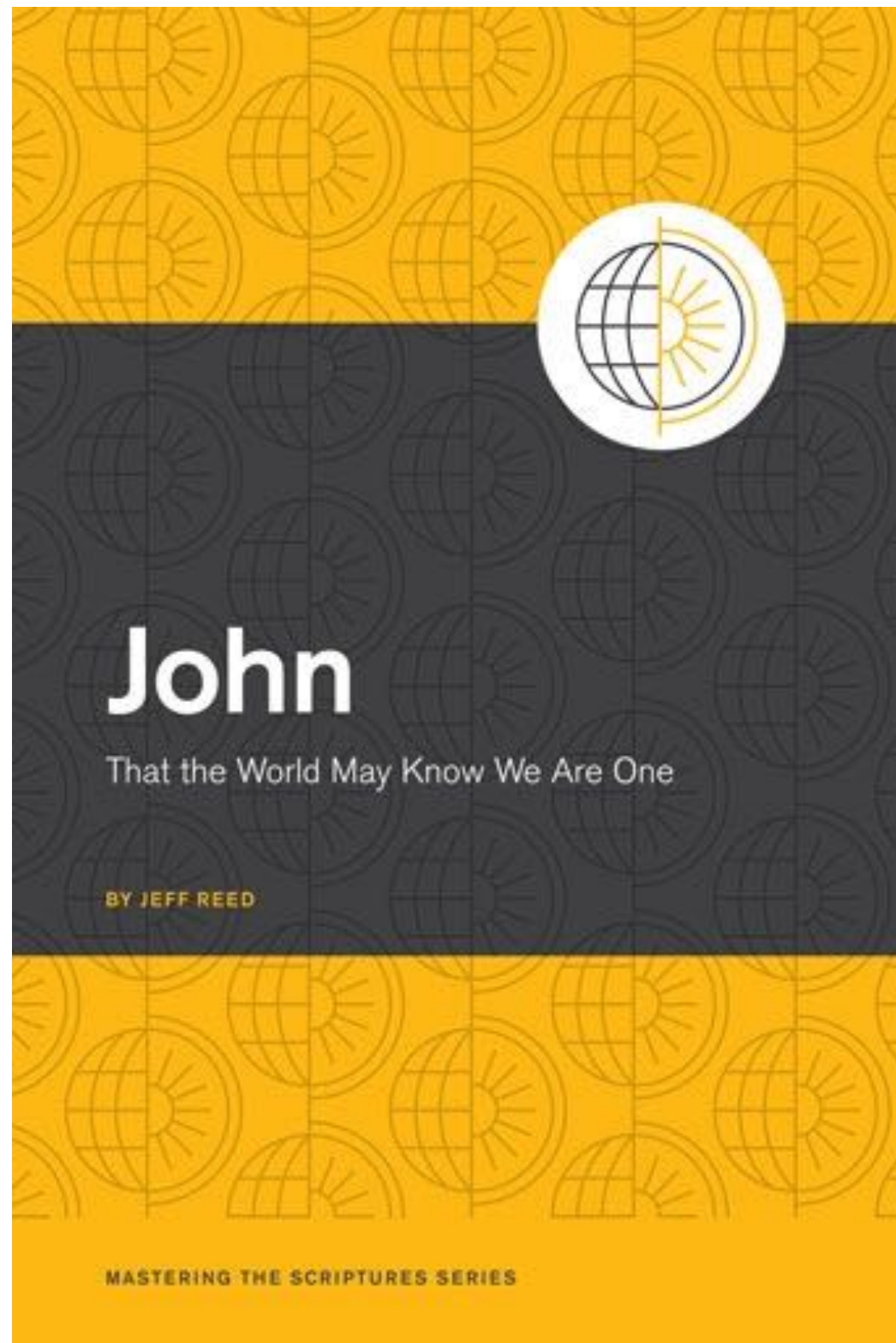
## Intention of John

1. How would you describe John's purpose for writing? Why is it important to understand John's writings?

## Book of Signs, Upper Room Discourse, New Community, Global Church

*- Love one another - Ask anything - Greater works than me - The Spirit will teach you - Abide in me and my words - Sanctify them in truth - Sent into the world - Glorify your Son*

2. What is the difference when understanding these key ideas of John individually vs. living in a new community? What are the implications of reading John's work only from an individualistic perspective?
3. Is the global church really expected to be united as one? If so, how will we get there in light of all the different church traditions that have occurred since the early church days?



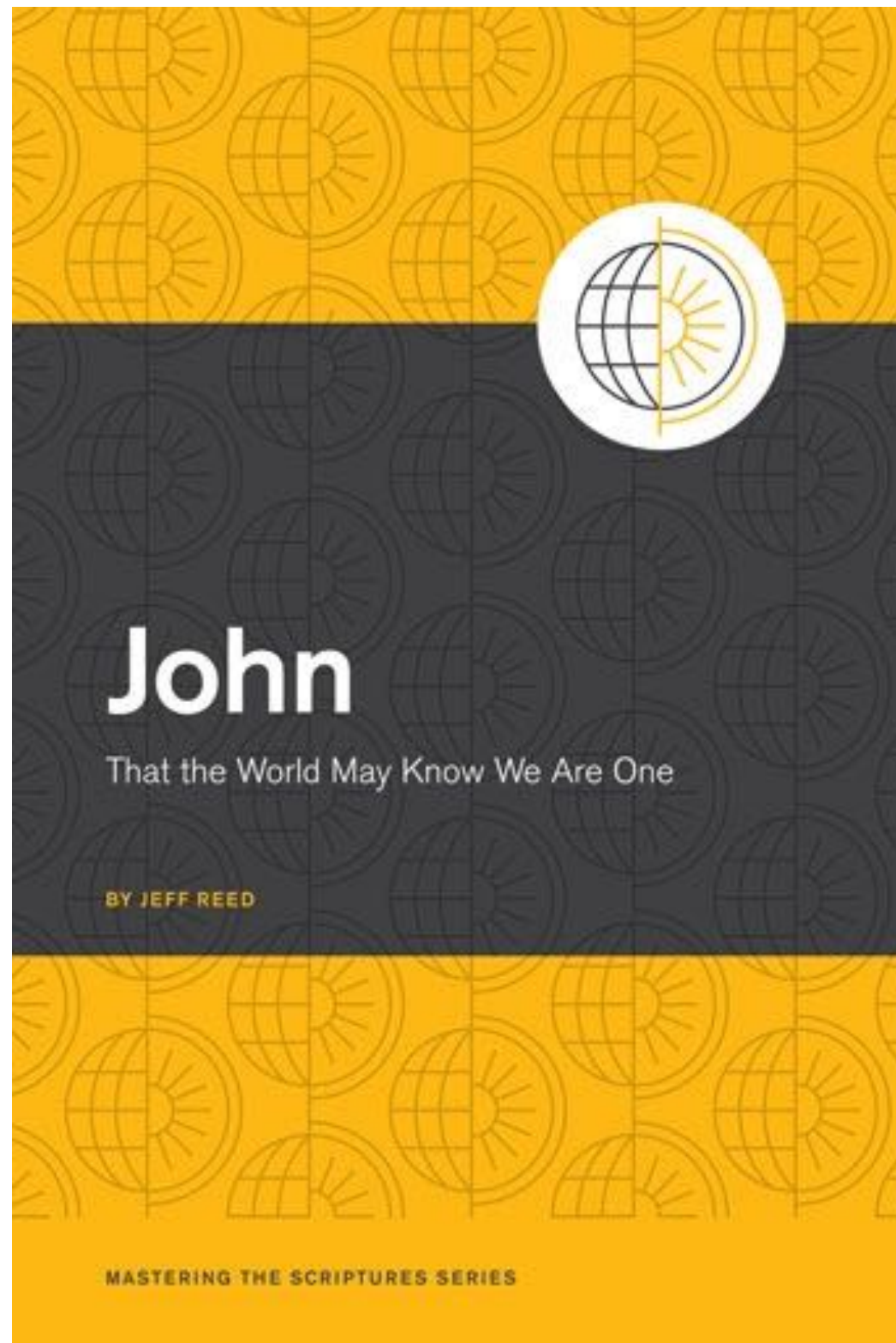
# John - Book of Signs

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## Content analysis of John's Gospel

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# John - Book of Signs

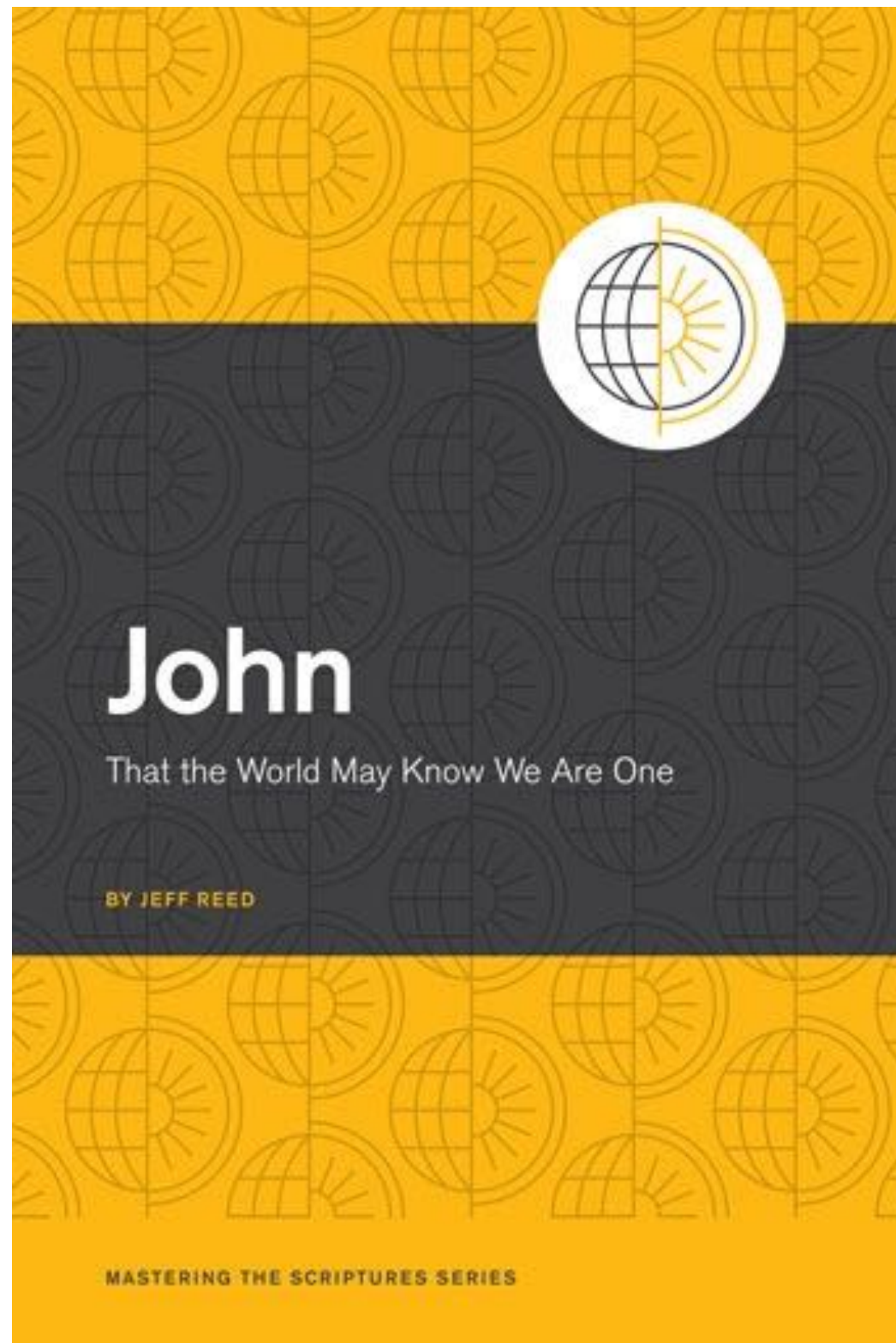
John 2-12 - referred to as The Book of Signs

Chap 1 - begins with a prologue and then testimony, then chapters 2-12 is shaped by consistent references to signs.

While the intent of John Gospel is to arrange the signs so that as churches we would hold on to our belief and experience life we have received, the Book of Signs itself concludes that both the world and the nation of Israel did not believe Jesus even though they saw the signs.

It also means that the signs are embedded with truths that as believers we are to grasp if we are to experience the life we have received from Christ.





# John - Book of Signs

C. H. Dodd's commentary on John

The Proem: Prologue and Testimony, 1:1–51

First Episode: The New Beginning, 2:1–4:42

Second Episode: The Life-Giving Word, 4:46–5:47

Third Episode: Bread of Life, 6:1–71

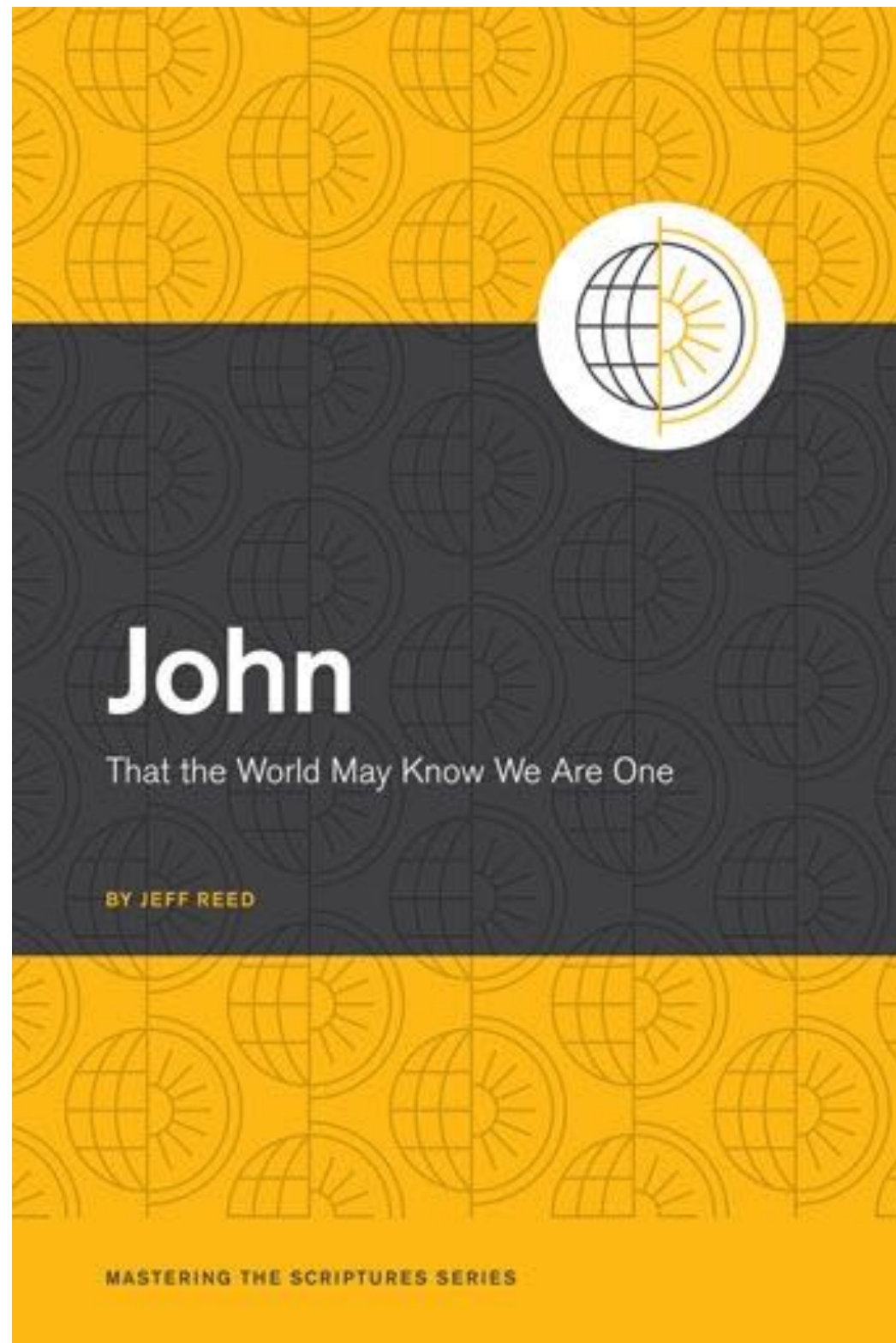
Fourth Episode: Light of Life: Manifestation and Rejection, 7:1–8:59

Fifth Episode: Judgment by the Light, 9:1–10:31; appendix, 10:22–39

Sixth Episode: the Victory Over Life and Death, 11:1–53

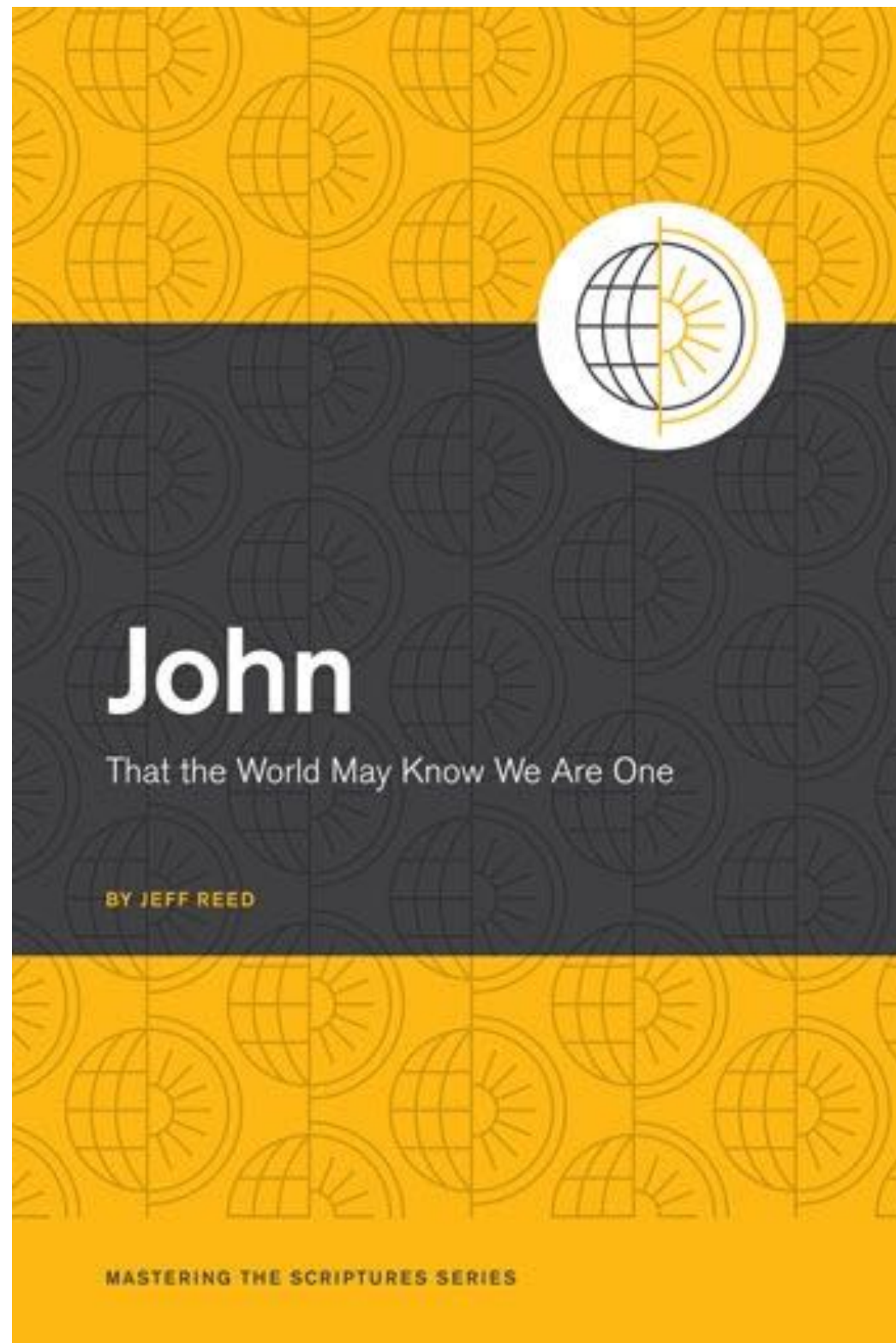
Seventh Episode: Life Through the Death—the Meaning of the Cross,  
12:1–36

Epilogue to the Book of Signs, 12:37–50



## John - Book of Signs

Remember the purpose of John's gospel (20:30-31) was so that we might have life in His name as we go through the book of signs, we see them all point to this life. This life was with Jesus as He created the world, life that is intended to become the light to all mankind.



# John - Book of Signs

First Episode: The New Beginning, 2:1–4:42

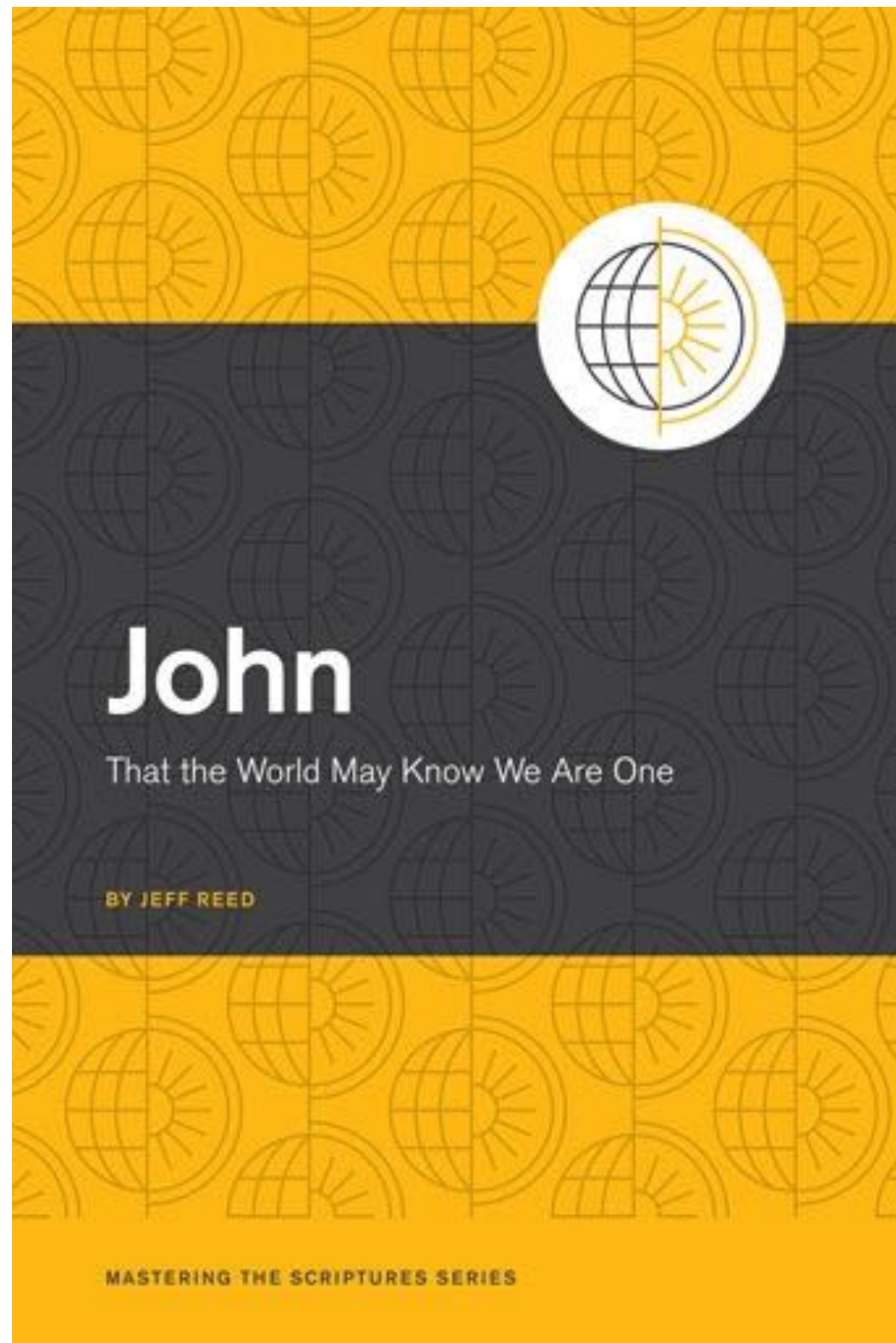
- New life to Nicodemus, the water Jesus gives provides eternal life
- We get an internal spring of water that we will never be thirsty again

Second Episode: The Life-Giving Word, 4:46–5:47

- Jesus heals the official's son, healing on the Sabbath
- John 5:24 - anyone who hears my word...will pass from death to life

Third Episode: Bread of Life, 6:1–71

- Jesus as the the bread of life
- see John 6:35 - we will never be hungry or thirsty again



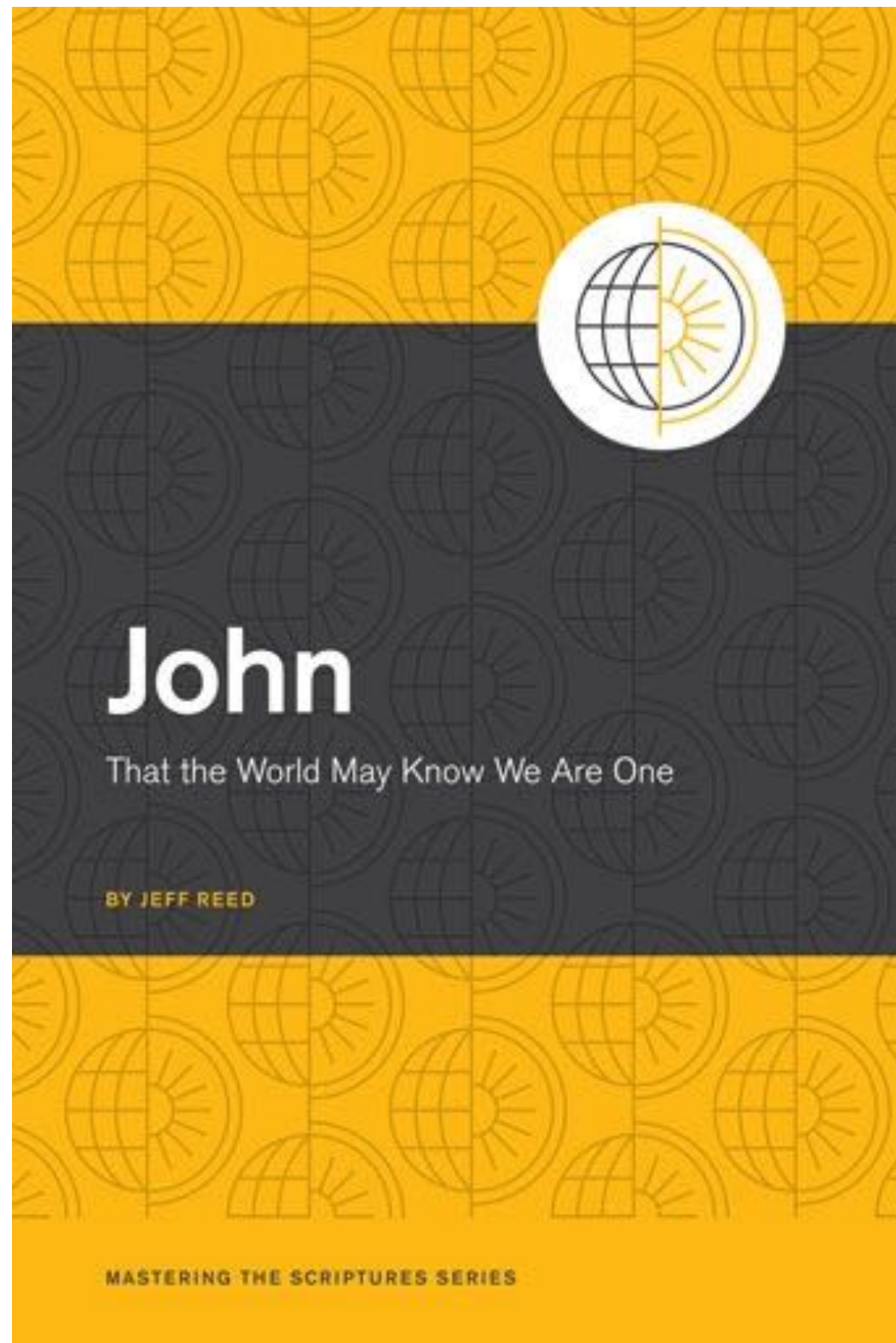
## John - Book of Signs

Fourth Episode: Light of Life: Manifestation and Rejection, 7:1–8:59

- Jesus is teaching in the temple, incident of the woman caught in adultery,
- Jesus is focusing on understanding of the need for internal change and the tremendous power of life He is imparting to those who believe
- The ideas of light and walking in darkness or light, we can either wander through life in the dark or see where we are going.

Fifth Episode: Judgment by the Light, 9:1–10:42

- blind man receives his sight
- Jesus is the protective shepherd, we can go about our lives under His care, that is life!



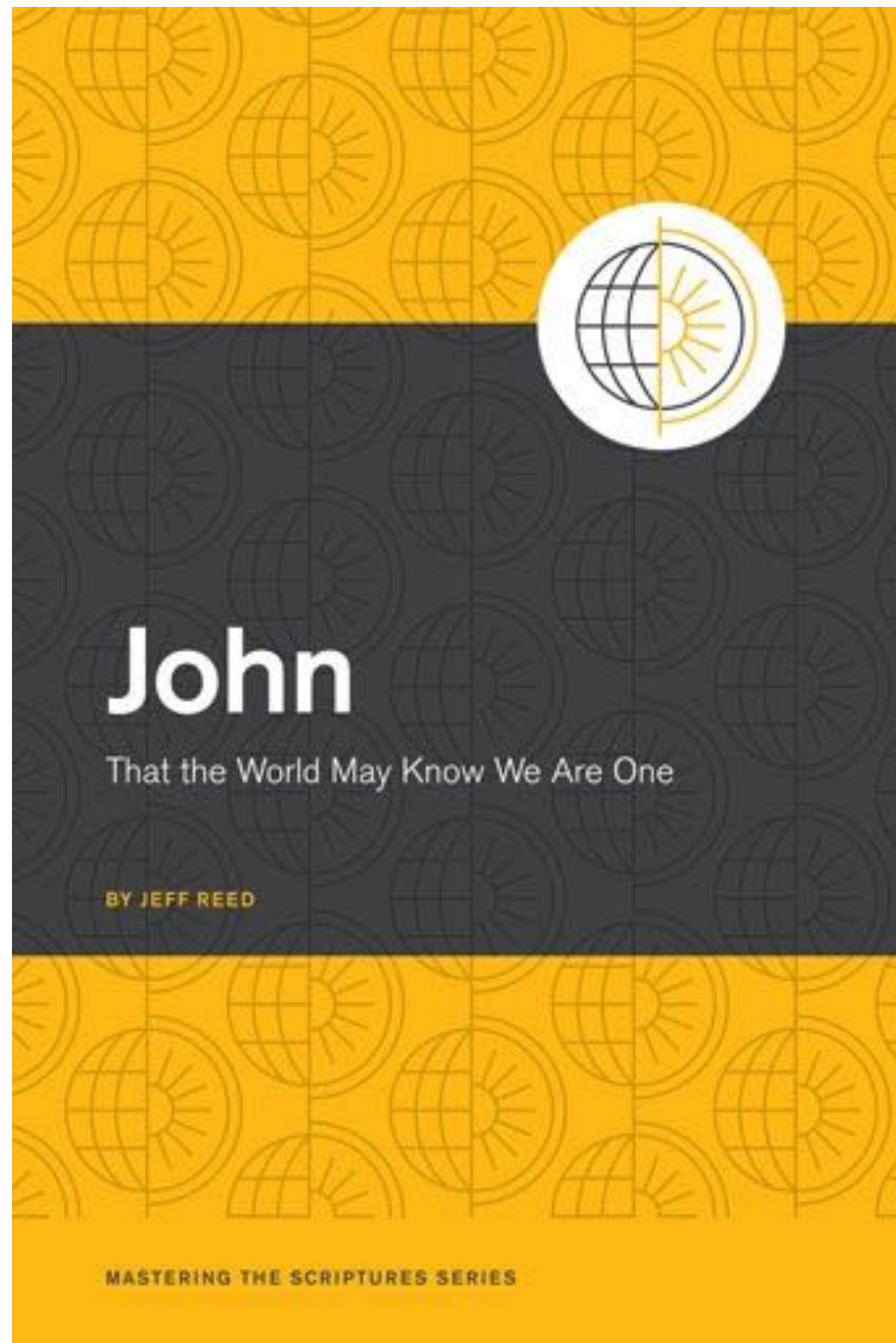
## John - Book of Signs

### Sixth Episode: the Victory Over Life and Death, 11:1–53

- victory over life and death, the sign is raising Lazarus from the dead
- this new life is tied in with the resurrection from death. Lazarus is resurrected as an illustration.
- Jesus will be resurrected by the very power of this life that was with Him at creation, imparted to us at belief, and that will cause us as His children to never really die.

### Seventh Episode: Life Through the Death— 12:1–36

- life through death, pointing to the resurrection. a massive sign is about to emerge, it is historical, paradigmatic and seismic - Christ's resurrection
- John 12:23-26 - unless a grain of wheat dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies, it bears much fruit



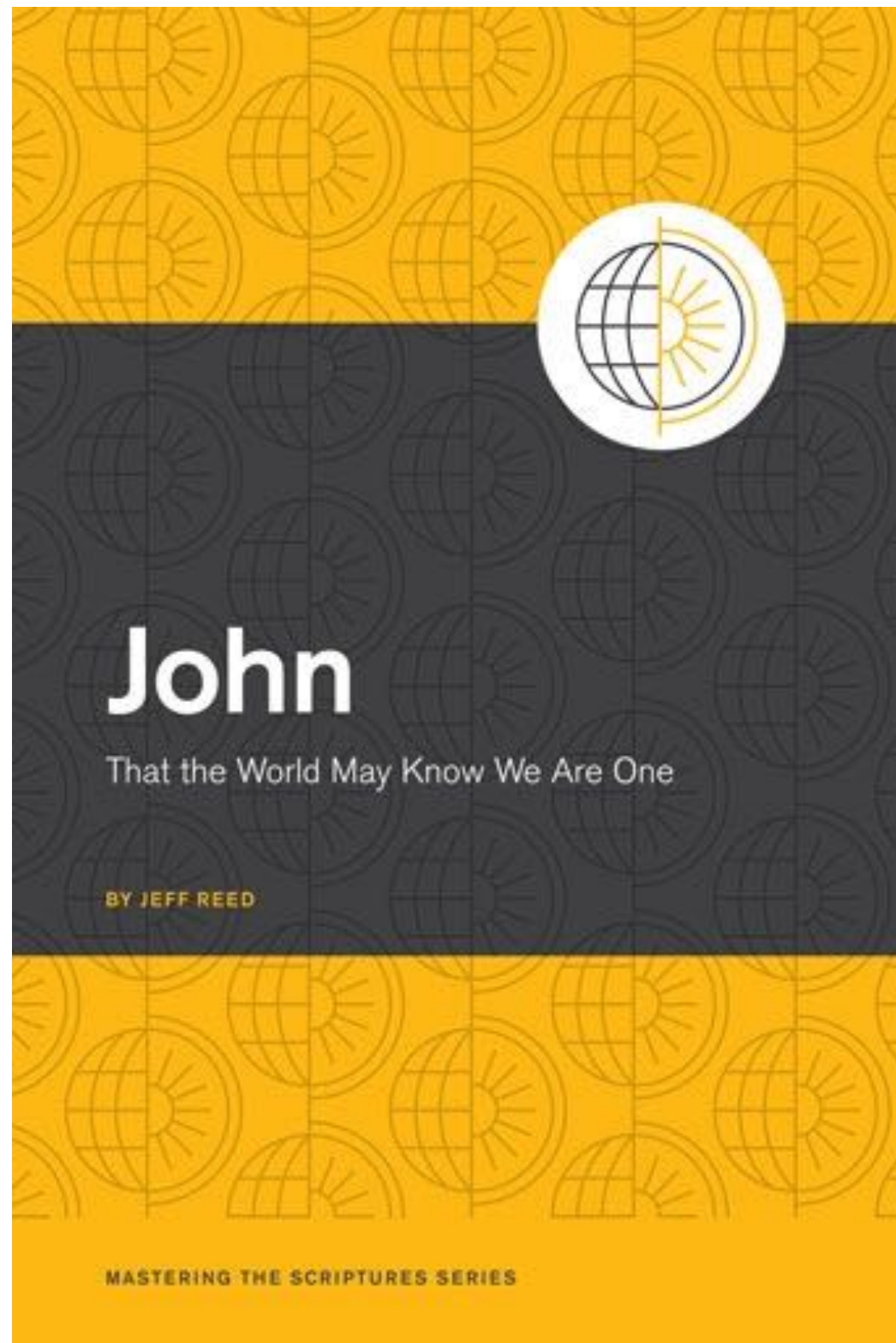
## John - Book of Signs

John 12:49–50 (ESV)

49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

The new life is imparted to us if we believe, if we fully embrace the kerygma, the essence of this life:

- it satisfies our thirst
- it satisfies our hunger
- it lights up our path
- it is abundant - outstanding, remarkable, unusual, exceptional
- it conquers death
- it requires giving up our life
- it requires embracing His commandment

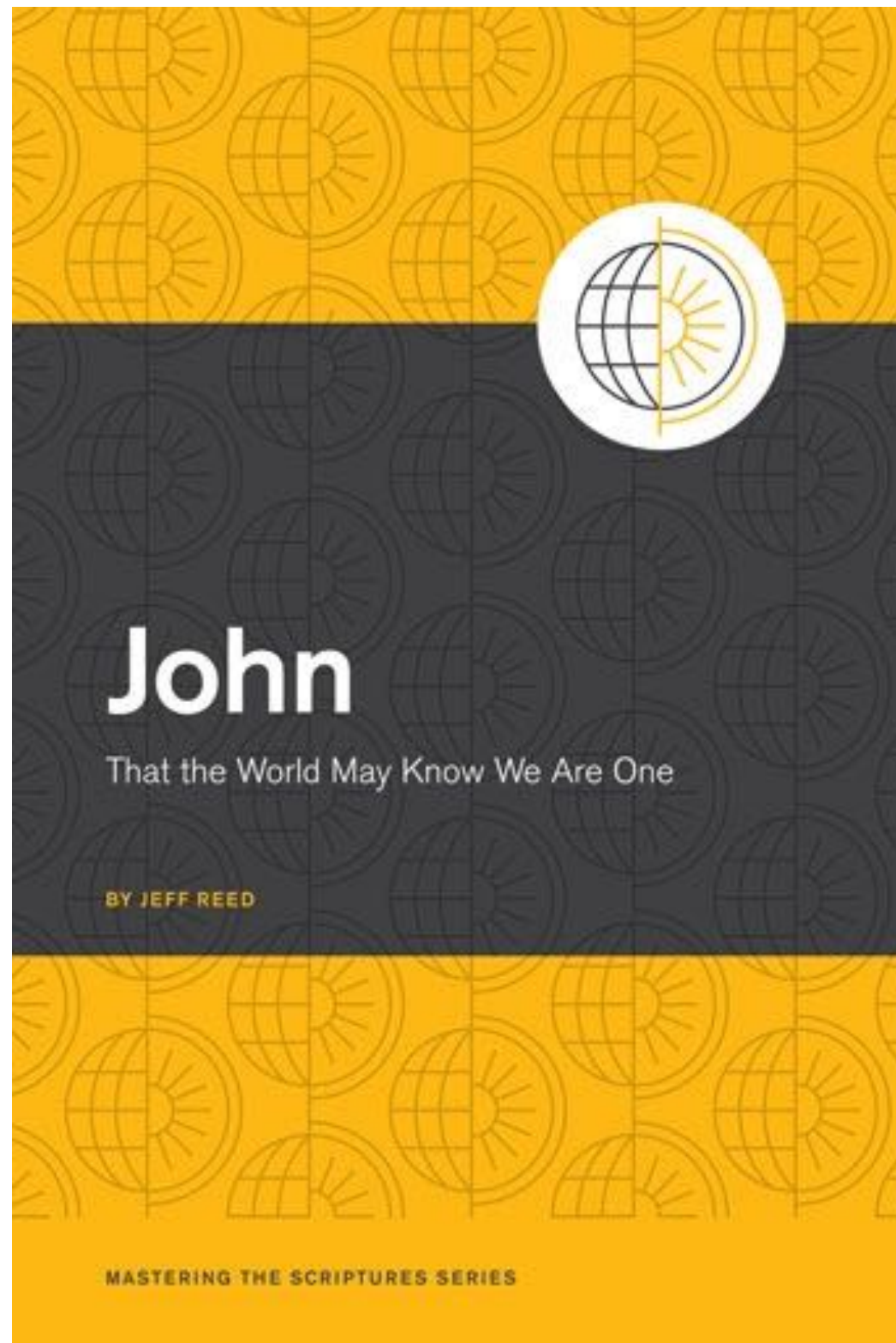


## John - Book of Signs

We tend to reduce this concept of life, to the future only, and miss the heart of John message to his churches, that there is an abundant life that John intends now.

We also tend to reduce this concept of this life now, to how Jesus loves us individually, missing the entire new community of love that Jesus is setting up.

Understanding this concept of life, will be more understood as we progress through John this morning.



# John - Upper Room Discourse

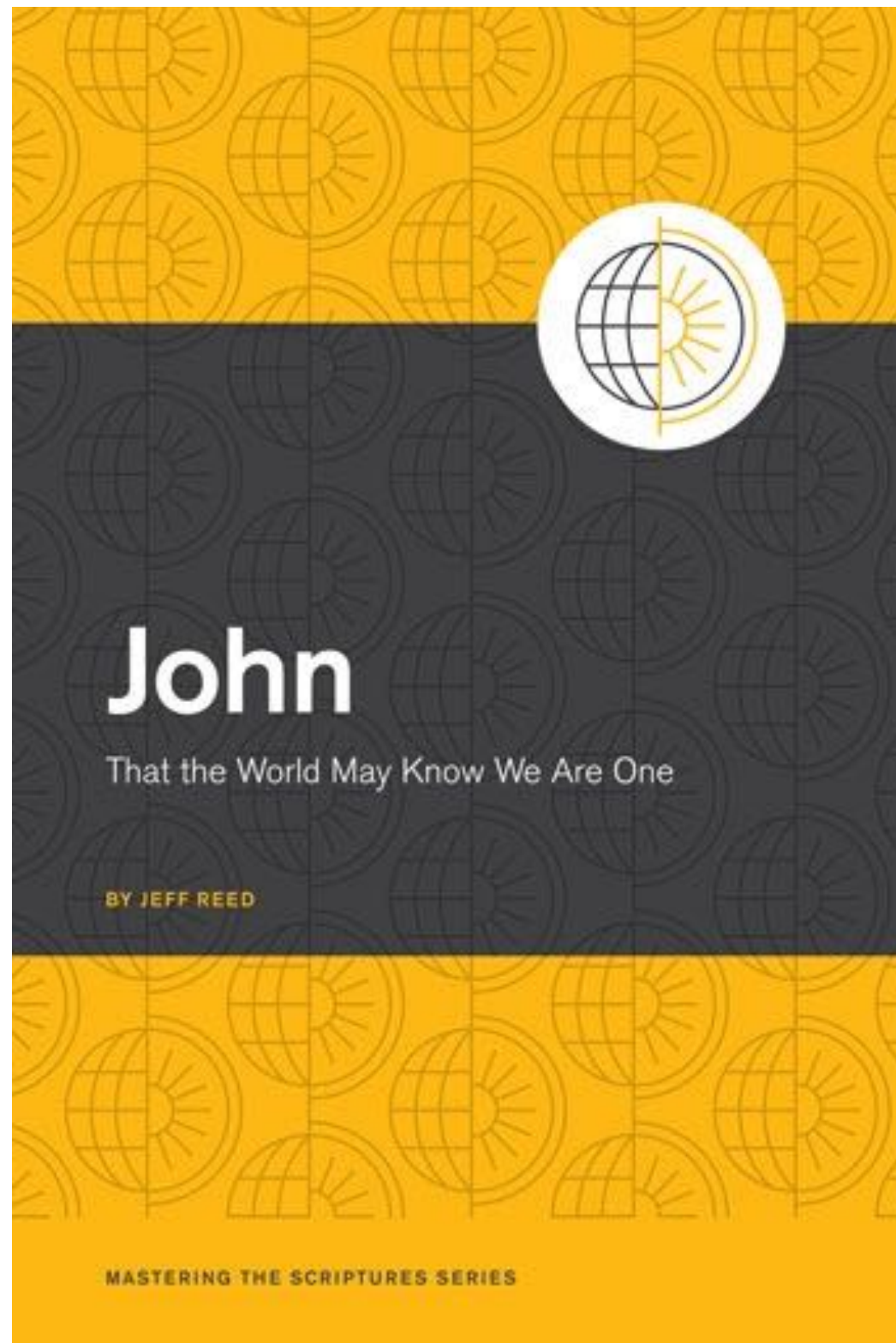
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## Content analysis of John's Gospel

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# John - Upper Room Discourse

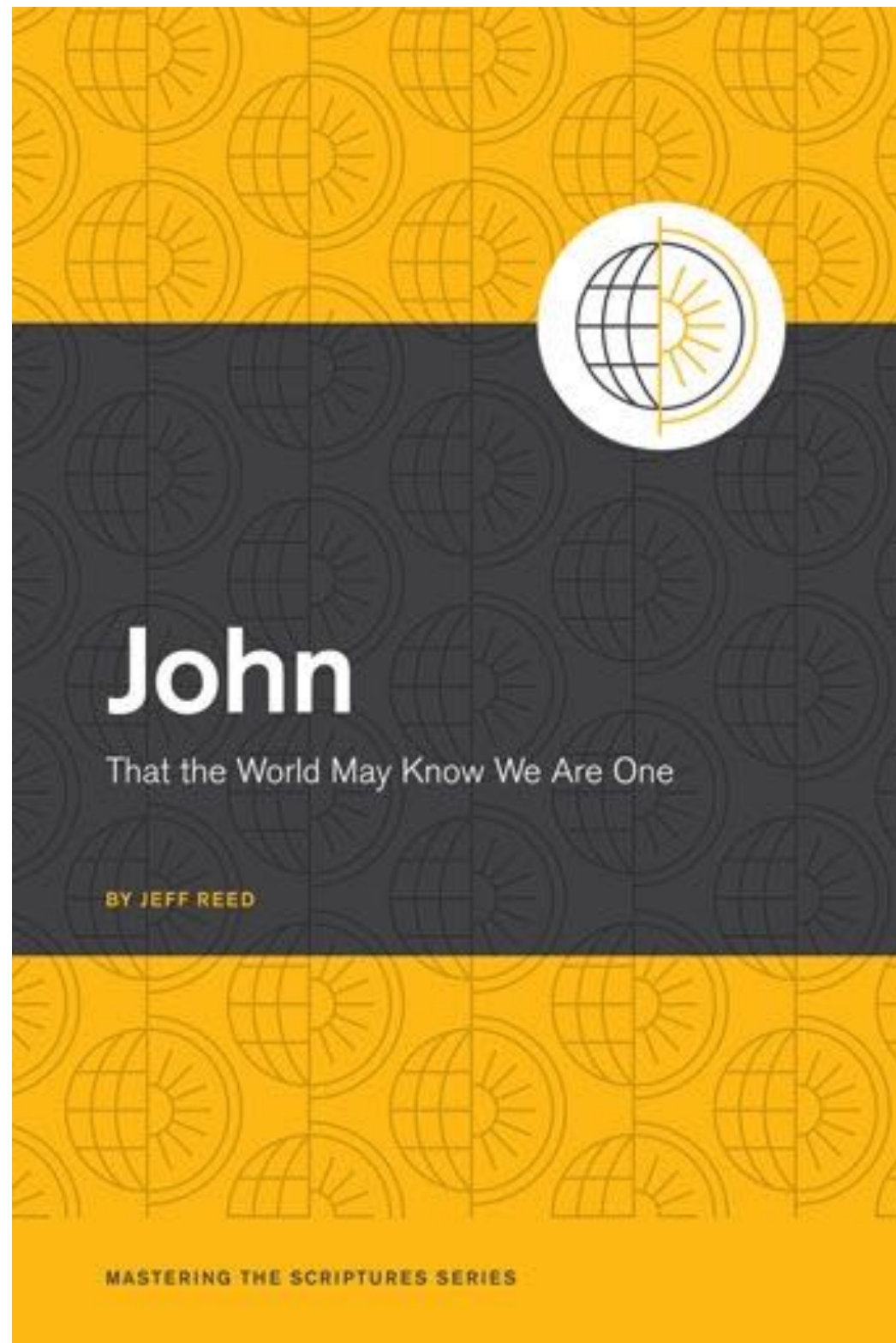
John 13-17- Jesus' discussion with the disciples in the upper room

-13:1-35 - opening and dramatic scene - forming a new community with a new covenant - one command to love one another

-13:36-14:31 - dialogue of Christ' departure and return - Spirit will come after I leave and will teach you everything, the ruler of this world has no power over me

-15:1-16:33 - Discourse on Christ and His Church - disciples are to testify on Christ's behalf

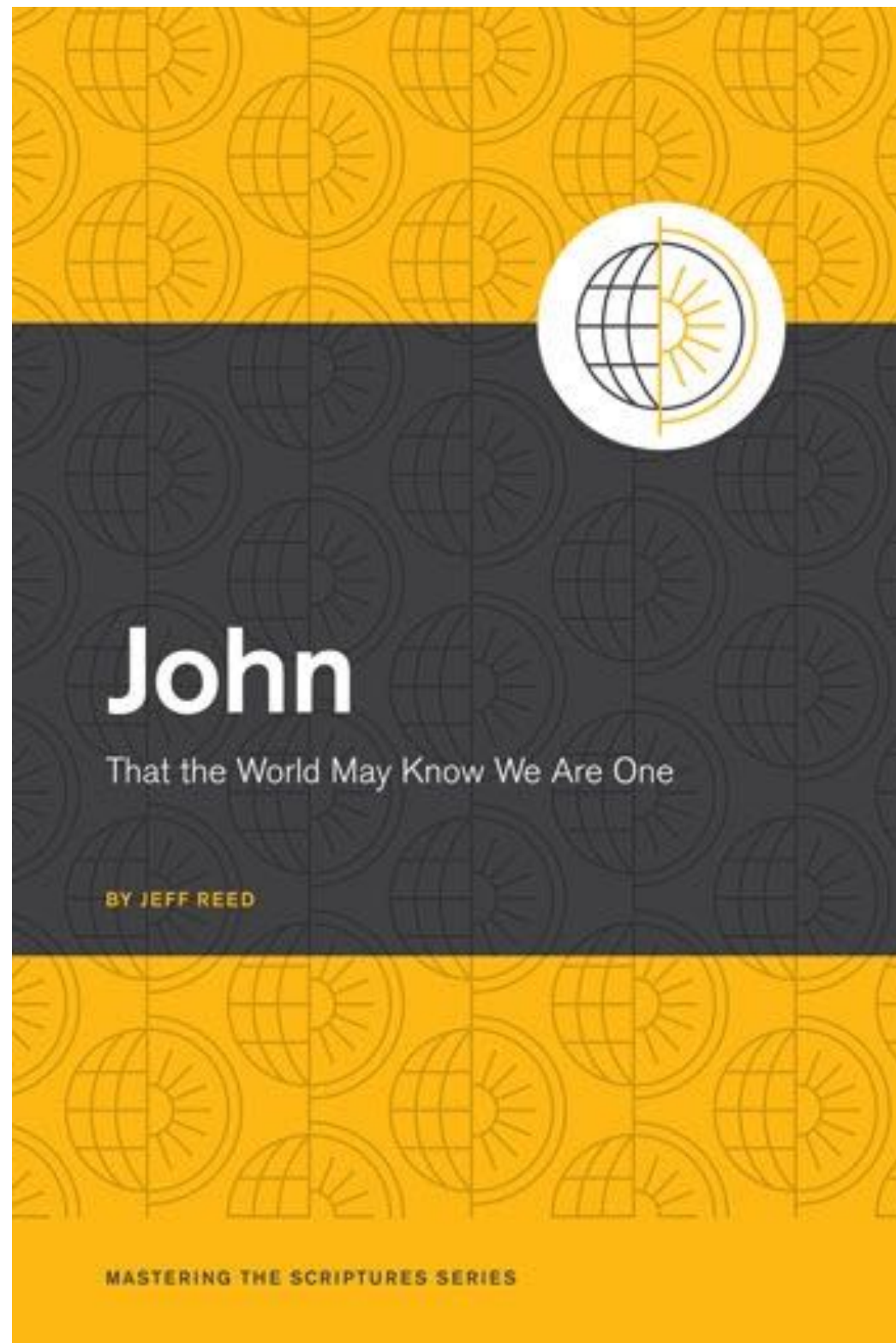
-17:1-26 - The Prayer of Christ - the hour has come for Jesus to finish His work - now set them (His people) apart so that they may have eternal life and they will know You and Your love will be in them



# John - Upper Room Discourse

8 key ideas in the Upper Room

- Love one another
- Ask anything
- Greater works than me
- The Spirit will teach you
- Abide in me and my words
- Sanctify them in truth
- Sent into the world
- Glorify your Son

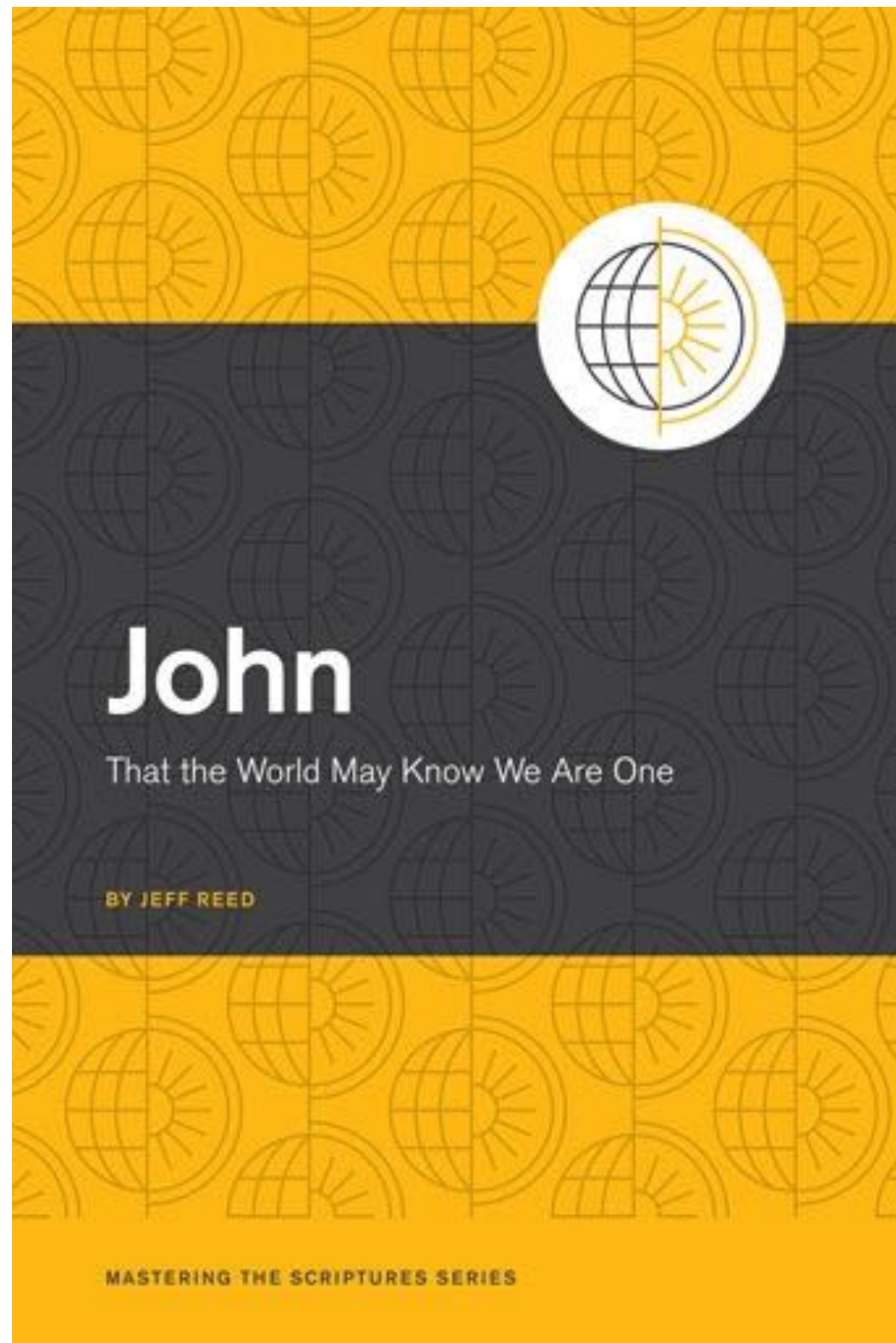


# John - Upper Room Discourse

Jesus came that we might have life and have it abundantly. After the cross, when He leaves and the Spirit comes, this new life is going to burst onto the scene.

What is this new life going to look like?

We should be waiting in eager expectation, what is this life that is abundant, a life that conquers death, a life that quenches all hunger and thirst?

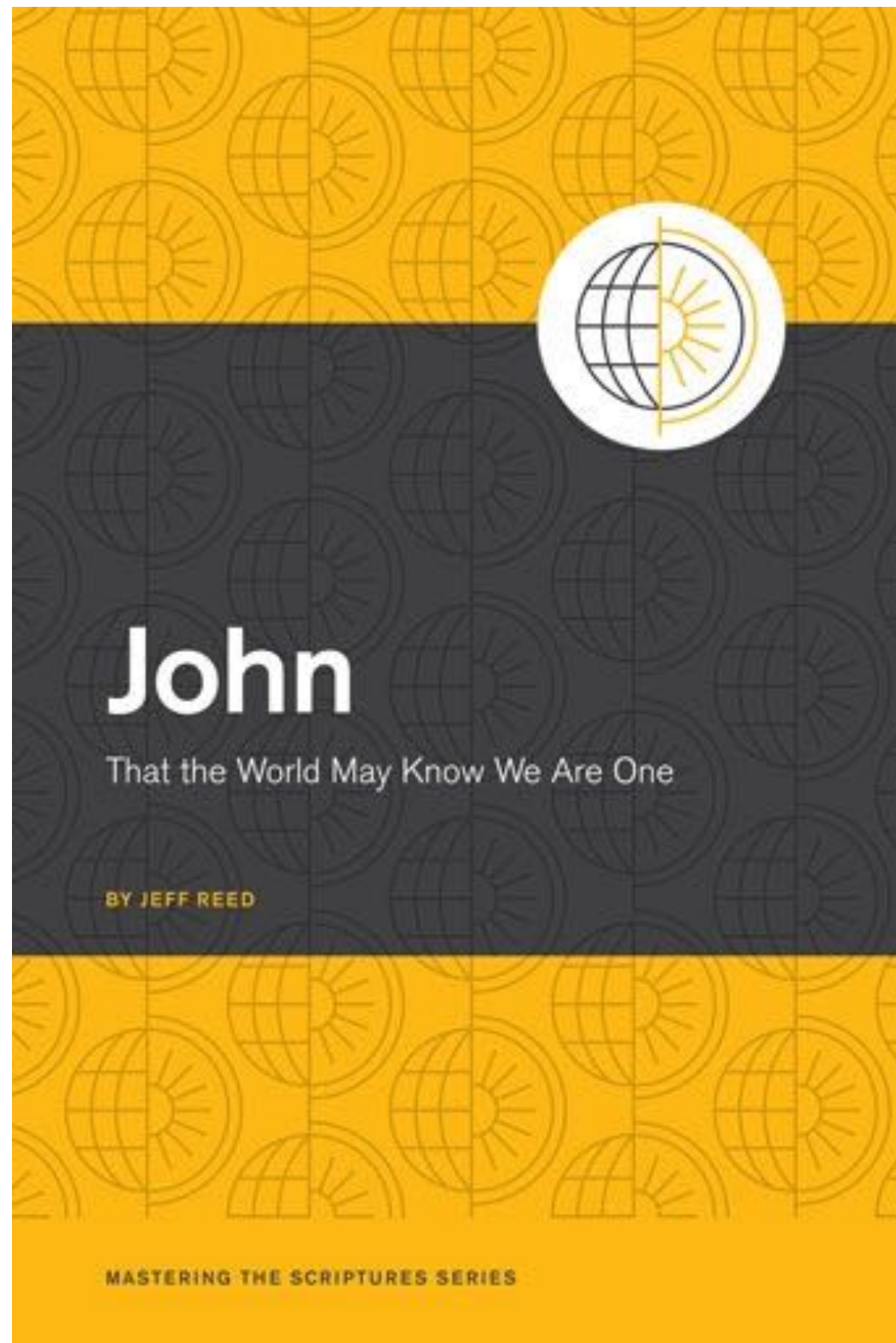


# John - Upper Room Discourse

John says:

The Spirit is going to form a whole new community based on one foundational commandment—love one another. The Spirit will then lead the Apostles into a whole body of truth that currently they are not even able to comprehend. This will be the foundation of belief for all those who follow in belief, forming a global community that is one minded around this truth.

This global community will be the proof to the world that Jesus was sent by God, and that this is all real, thus bringing glory to Jesus, which will glorify God. This new global community, filled with the love of God, will experience the joy of this new life!

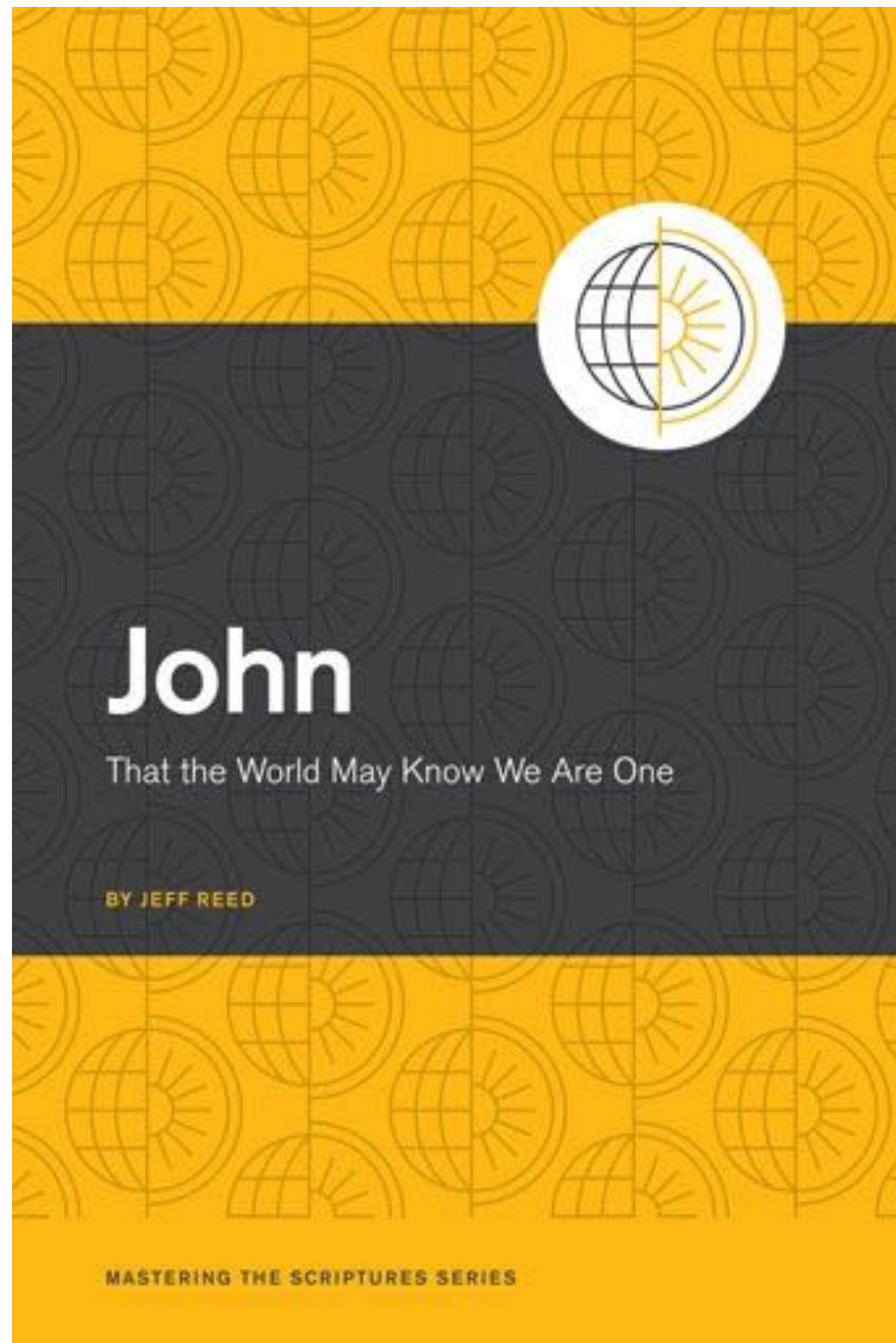


## John -The New Community

In our Western churches, which are highly individualistic in nature, we see everything from the perspective of an individual Christian.

We assume he is writing to the individual Christian, thinking we can then ask whatever we want individually, the Spirit teaching us individually, abiding in individual devotions and that we are individually sent into the world.

This is not how John frames his key ideas, instead we have to grasp the new community that John is setting forth. John situates all of his ideas in the context of a new community, in fact he is addressing those already in these new communities. (50-60yrs into church life)



# John - The New Community

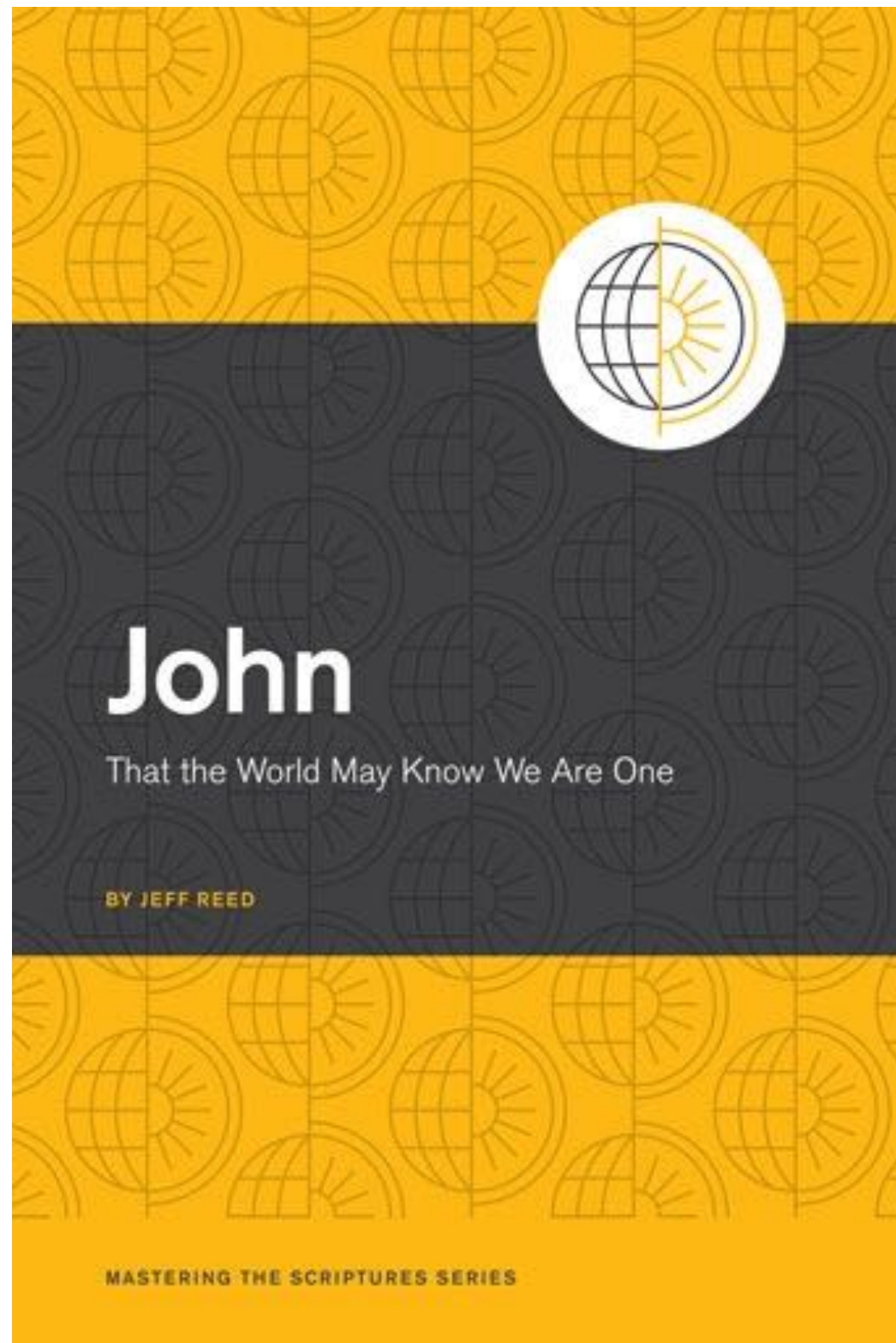
Leading ideas from Upper Room Discourse in context of new community

**Love one another** - this means they are to live in community, loving each other at all costs - not matter what we love each other, this is why we share all aspects of our lives

**Ask anything** - this means our communities and leaders can ask anything on behalf of Jesus' global intent and it will be done

**Greater works than me** - Collectively we will accomplish far more than Jesus did in His short time on earth. He accomplishes His global intent through this new community as it grows to the ends of the earth.

**The Spirit will teach you** - here the spirit will teach the disciples everything after Jesus leaves, the Spirit will give them a body of teaching, giving them things Jesus could not teach them while on earth. They will pass on all these teachings to future believers (17:14-21)

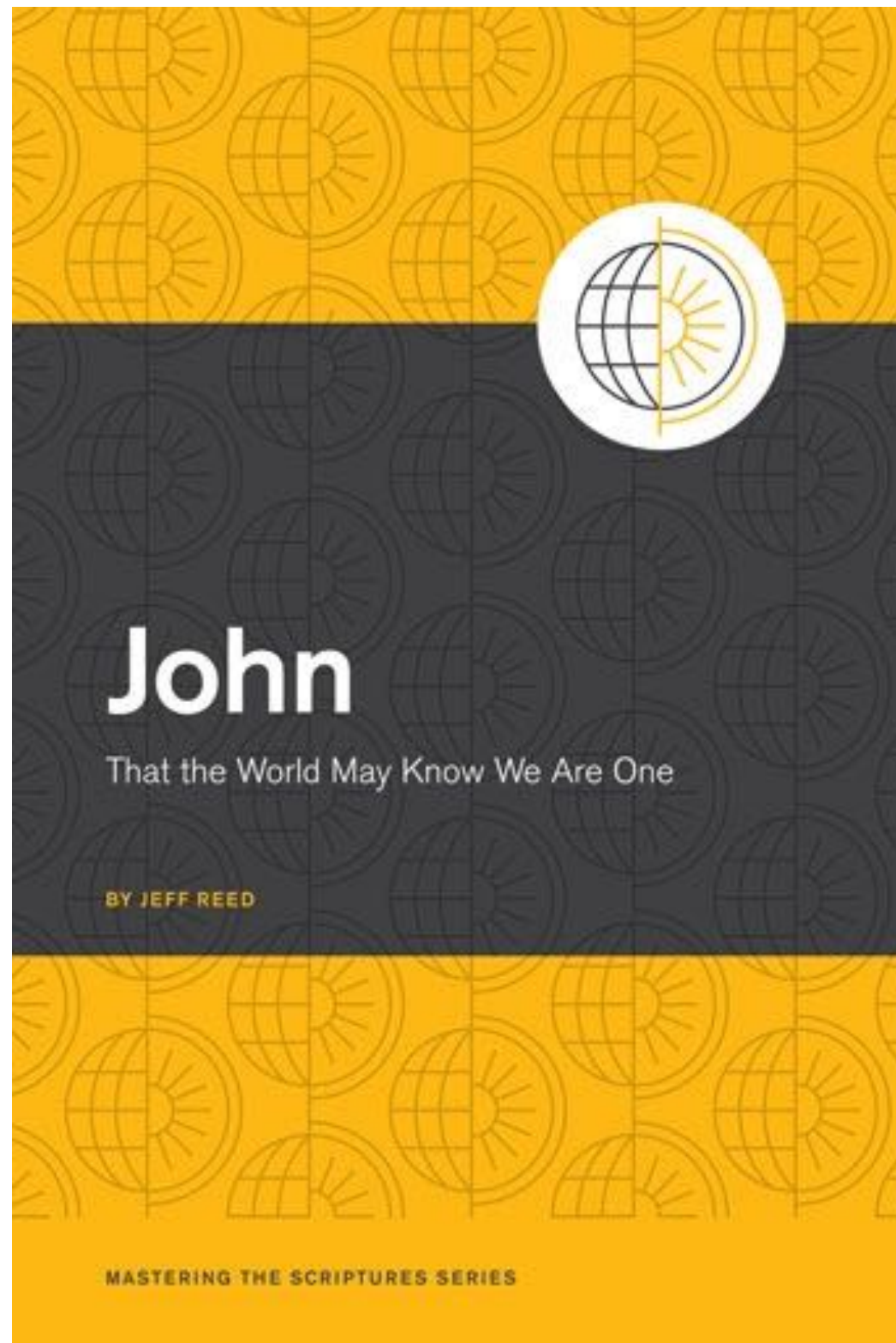


## John - The New Community

**Abiding in Christ** - many Christian books on this matter, all from an individualistic perspective. But what is John really saying is abiding in Christ?

- it is truly loving each other in the community - which indicates not a token involvement
- it is fully embracing the truth - the gospel and the teachings
- participating in the global intent of the community - to the ends of the earth

The implications are that we bring all our life in line with this new community, that is abiding in Jesus. Then He is seen in our communities as we love one another, fully embracing His truth, and participating in the global intent. When the Church is all that Jesus calls it to be, Jesus is seen as alive in us.



# John - The Global Community

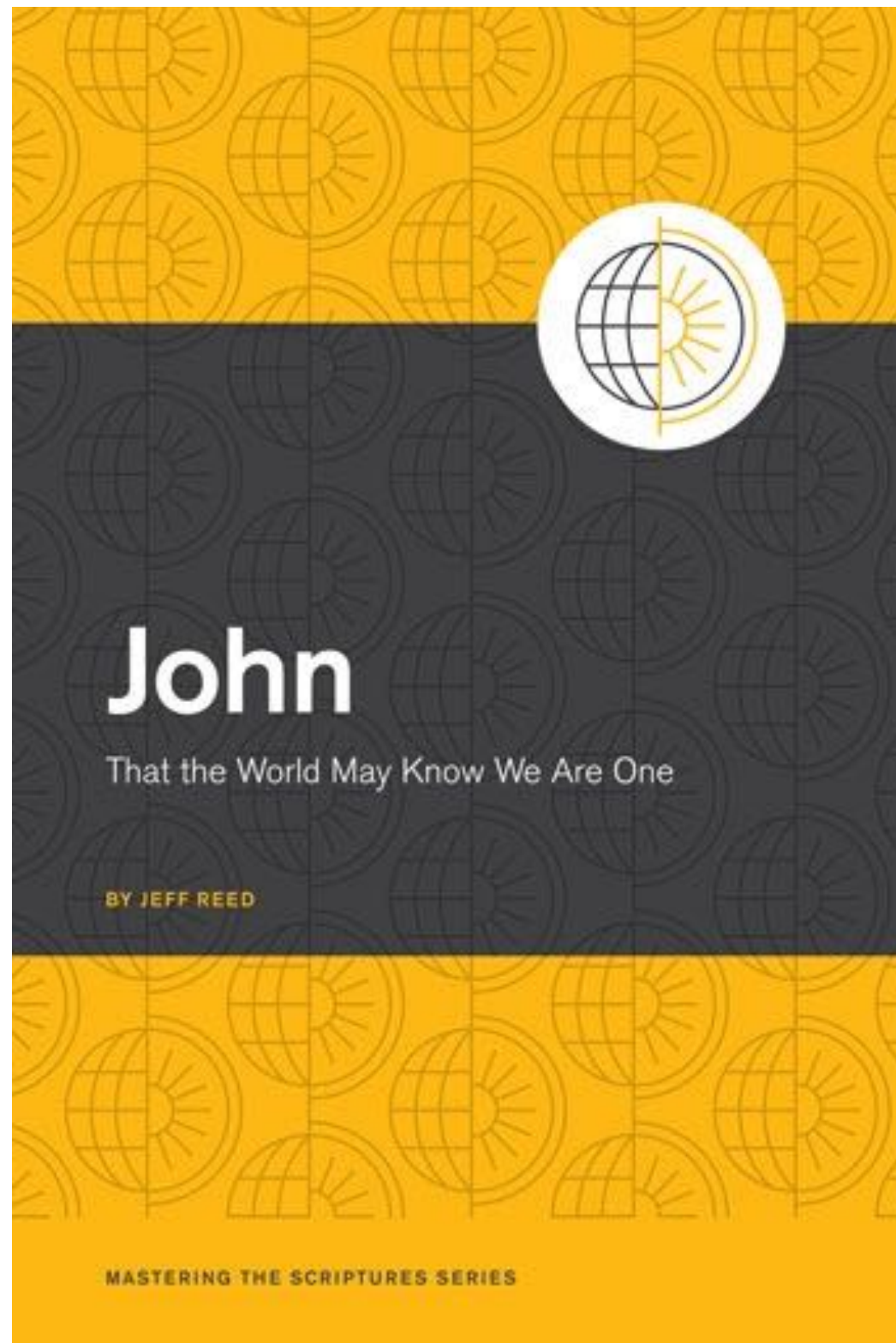
We still have 3 leading ideas to discuss from the Upper Room, we will do this in light of Christ building His Global Community

5. Sanctify them in truth
6. Sent into the World and
7. Glorify Your Son

The implications of this section are imperative for the work to which our citychurches are called. We often refer to it as “our work” or “the work”.

We are currently in the midst of building a global network, yet how will it remain united, how will each remain unique in their culture, doing theology in culture, yet remain His one global church family?





## John - The Global Community

The implications of this section are imperative for the work to which our citychurches are called. We often refer to it as “our work” or “the work”.

John 14:12–14 (ESV)

12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do **the works** that I do; and **greater works** than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

John 17:4–5 (ESV)

4 I glorified you on earth, having **accomplished the work** that you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

# The Work - Training Leaders in The Way of Christ and His Apostles



## The Story



## The First Principle Series

- First Principles of the Faith
- First Principles of Family Life
- First Principles of Establishing Churches



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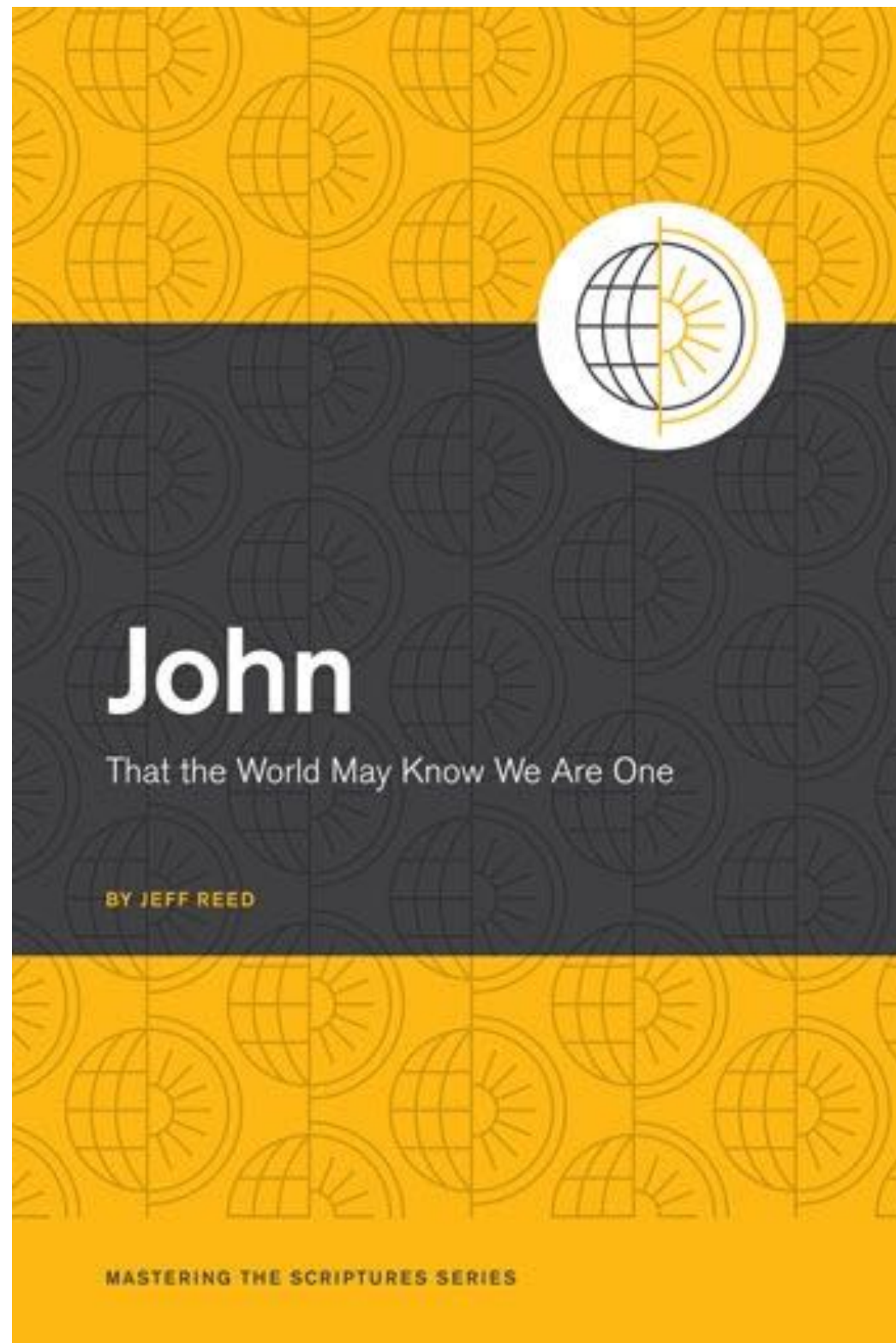
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## The Leadership Series - Establishing Churches & Theology in Culture





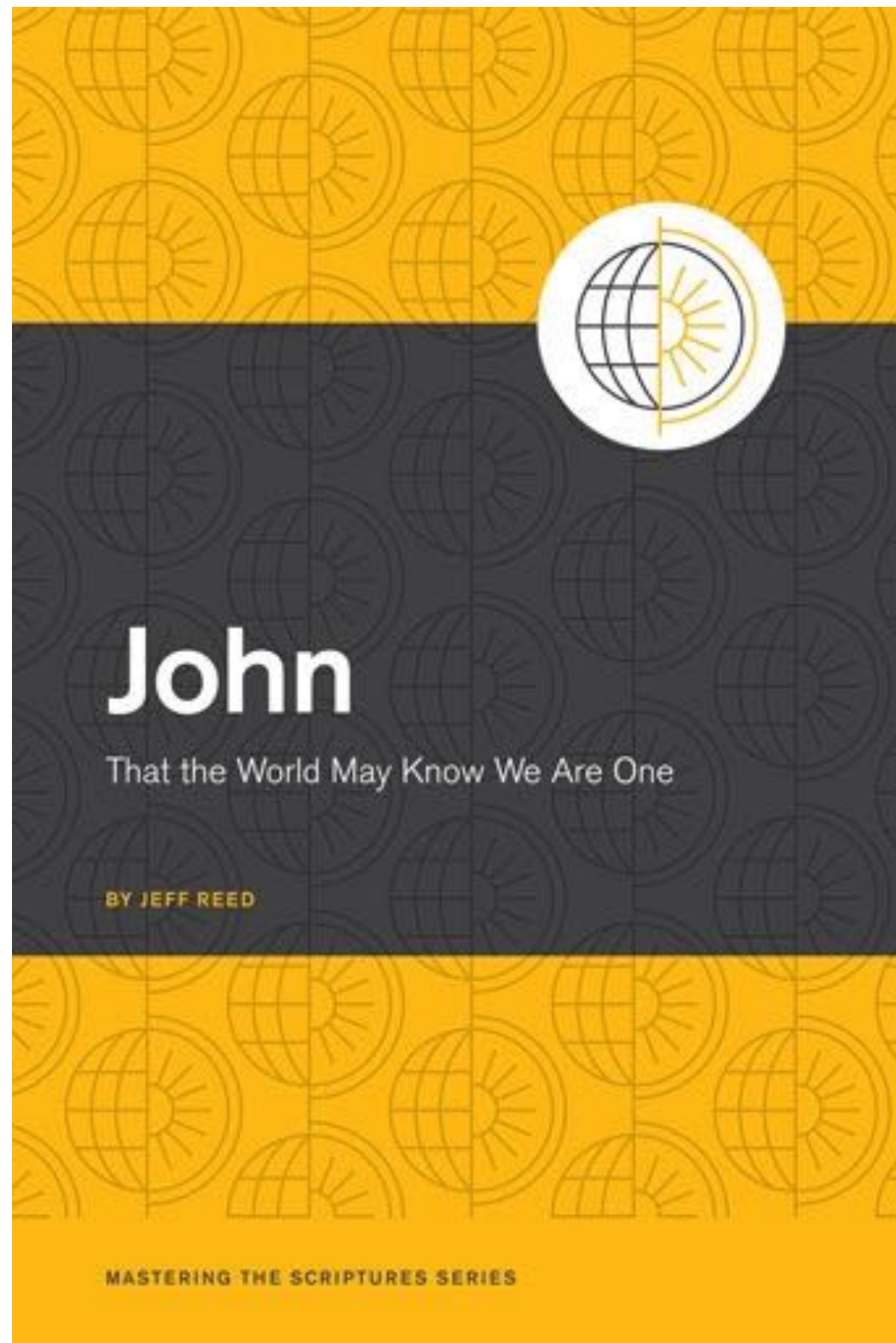
# John - The Global Community

Sanctify them in the Truth

John 16:12–15 (ESV)

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.  
13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

This truth is delivered through the disciples, through the Spirit - it is from Jesus, it is His truth. Additionally the Spirit will glorify Jesus by taking this truth to the disciples. Thus the truth is Jesus’ teachings that were delivered by the Spirit to the disciples.

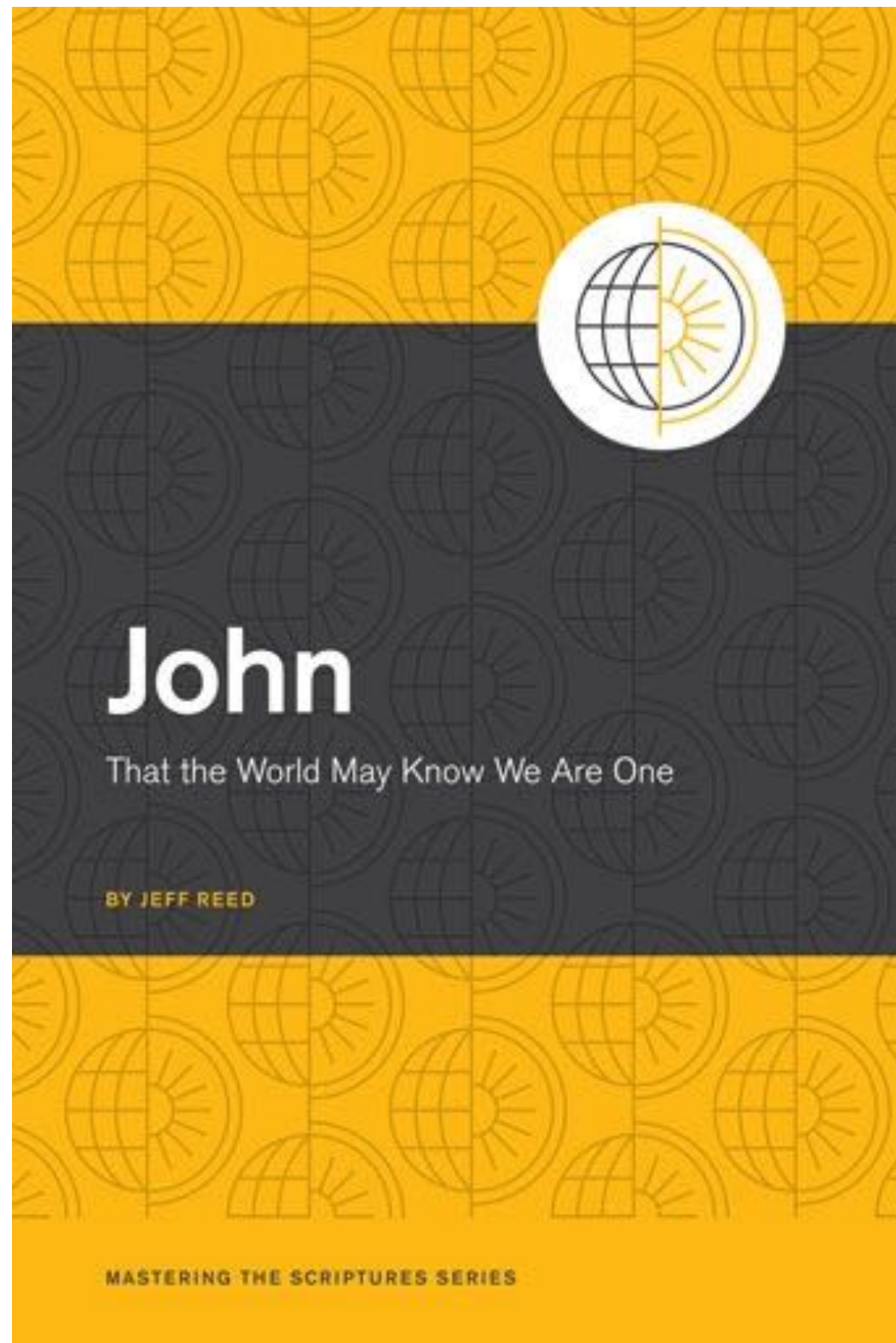


# John - The Global Community

Sanctify them in the Truth

John 17:17–23 (ESV) 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. 20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

The disciples are set apart in truth, as are those who believe in their words. The oneness will be seen in their following this body of teachings.



# John - The Global Community

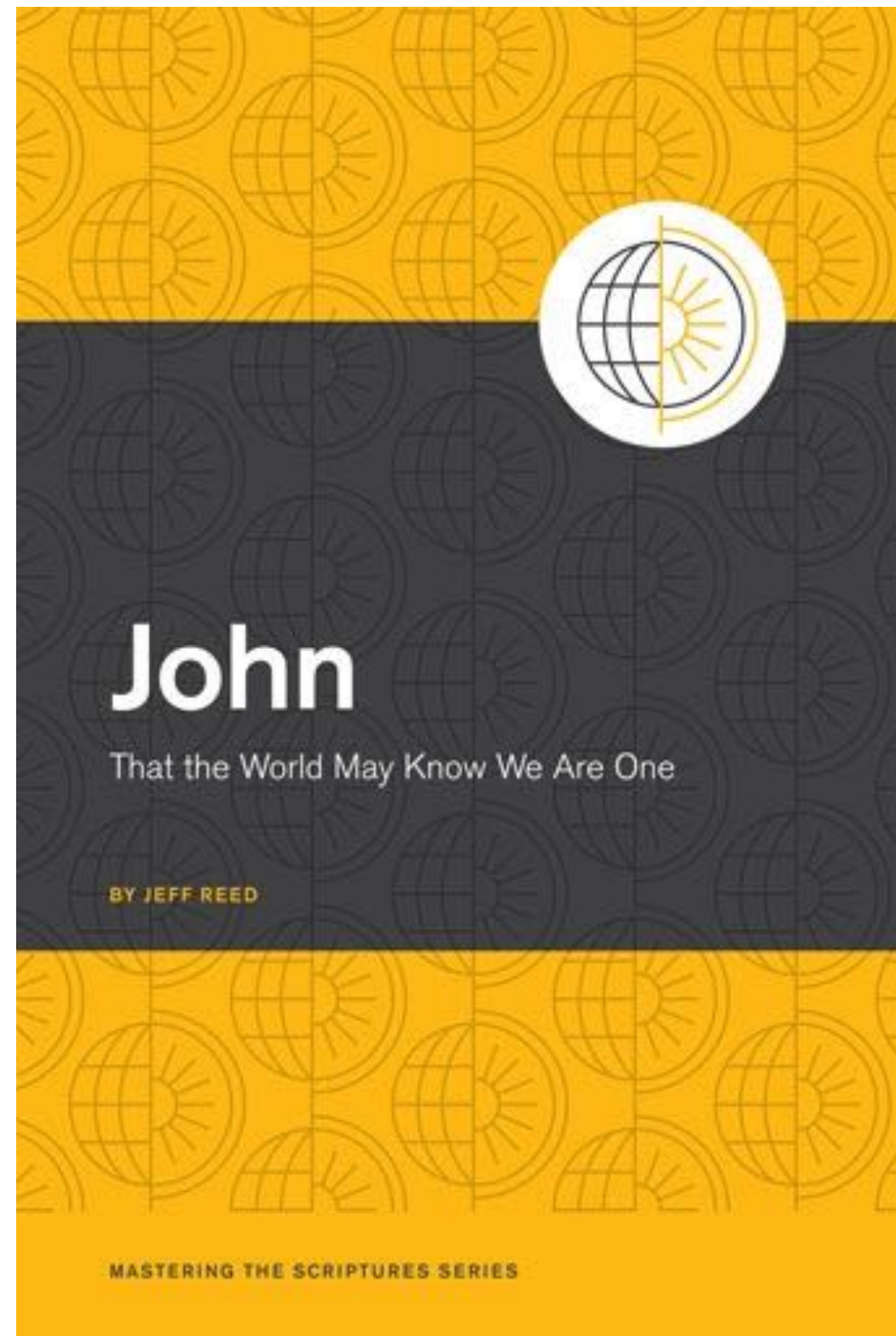
Sending Them into the World, Glorify Your Son

John 14:12–14 (ESV)

12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

John 17:4–5 (ESV)

4 I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.



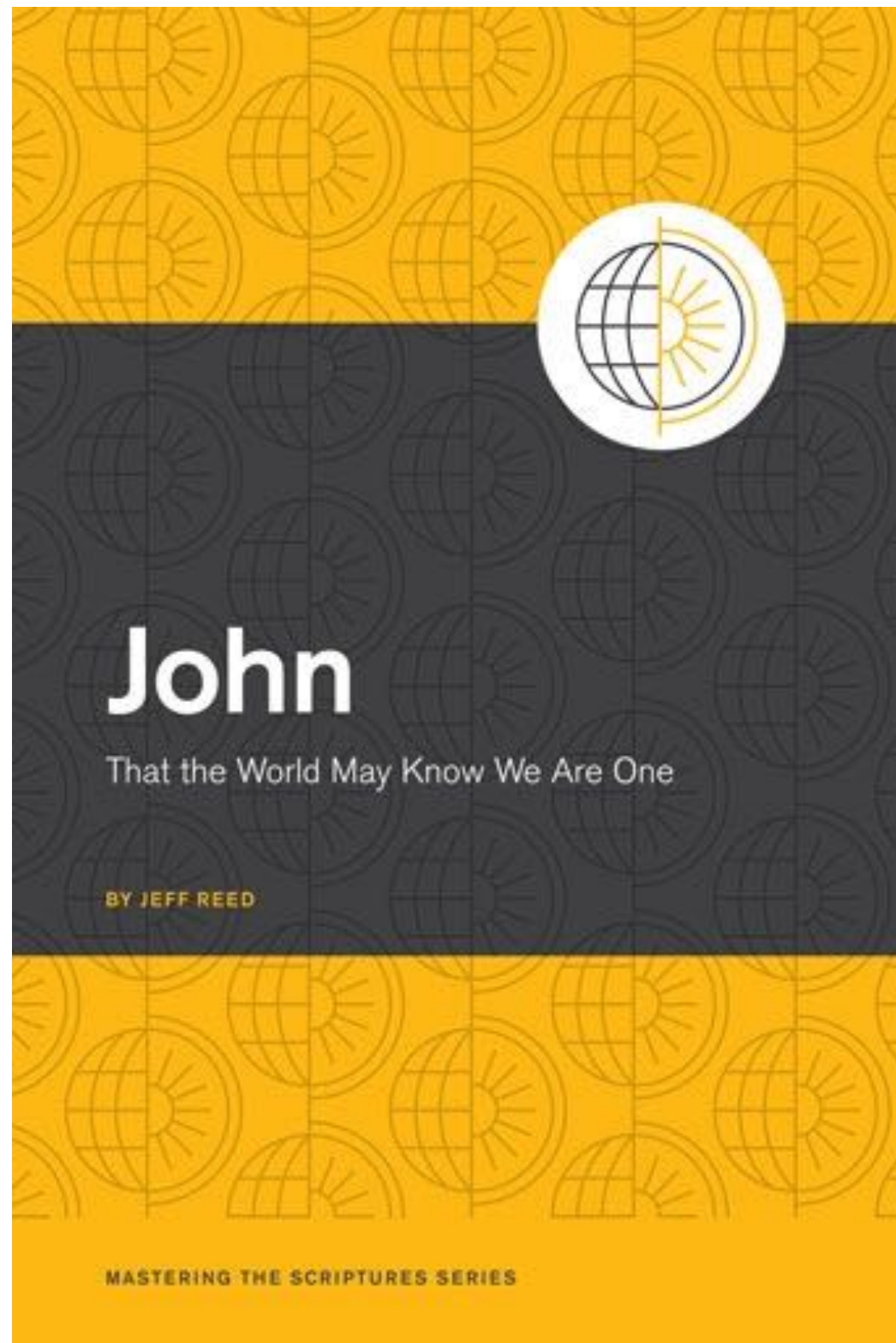
## John - The Global Community

Glorify your son now becomes evident, it is not a mystical experience. Glorifying your Son is done by carrying out the work we have been given to accomplish. The Father is glorified when the Son completes His work. The father is glorified when the disciples carry out the work. This involves going into the world with the teaching and seeing the global Church emerge.

Jesus is clear that an incredible oneness is His goal, and this oneness will have a powerful impact on the watching world.

**For the global church to be one, it must embrace all the truth, both the kerygma and didache.**

Oneness is weakened when truth is reduced to the kerygma (the gospel) and not the teachings Jesus delivered by the Apostles (the didache).

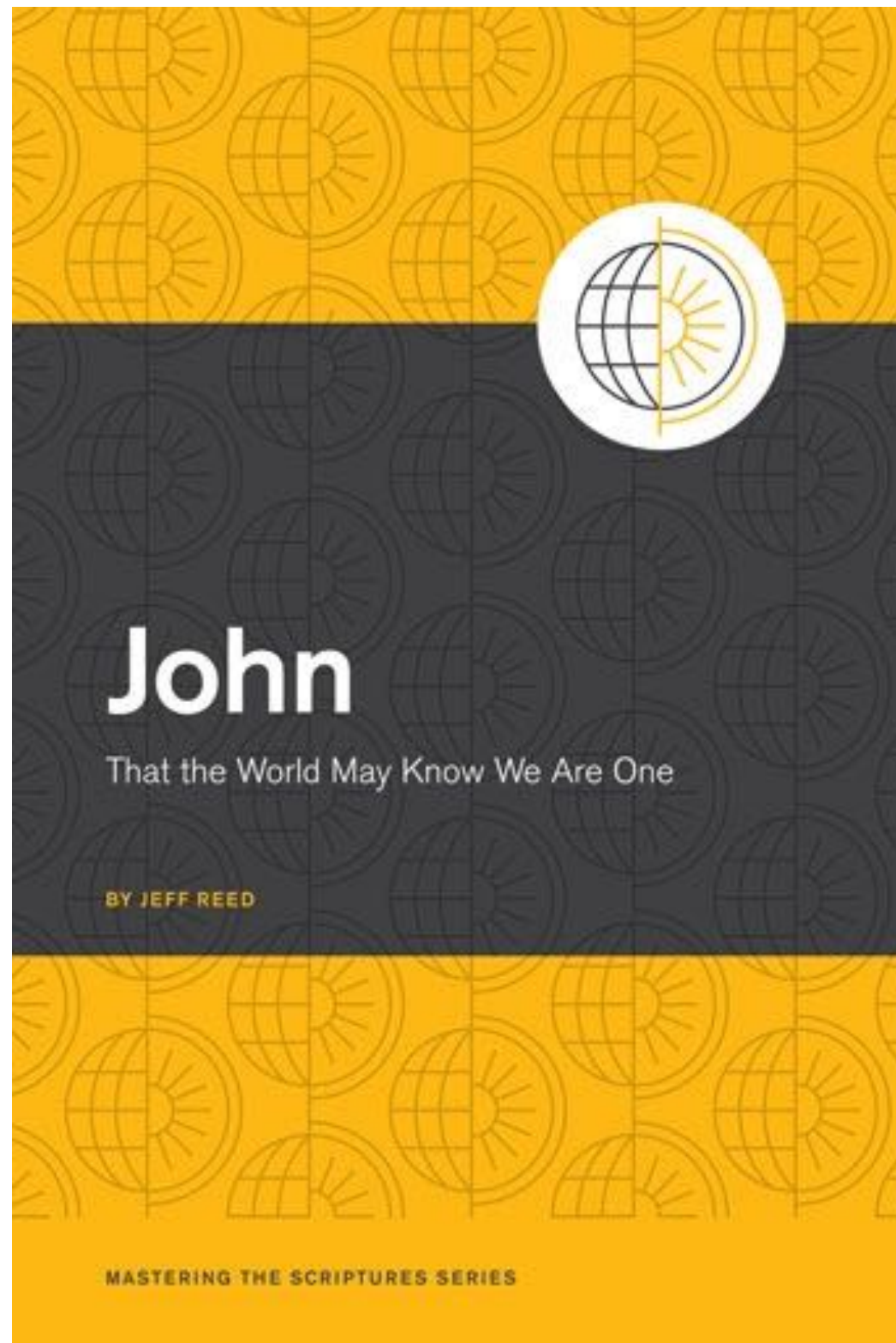


## An ending...

There is so much pain in this world and in our family - cancer eats our bodies, our overall body health and parts are failing, marriages are ending, children and single mothers are desperate, our people are struggling to find their purpose, some of our families say they are mature but are not, still others do not make their life priorities the church instead they remain tokenly involved...all of these things pain our hearts.

Yet Christ has given us an abundant, outstanding, remarkable, unusual, exceptional life now (and in the days to come).

Living in His Community, loving each other and following His Teachings.



## A text...

In the late 90's and the very early 00's Jane and I went through trials and testing with our church and then my family. In the opening verses of James' letter he says, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

The anything on the other side of all of this is a wisdom that will benefit the Ames-Des Moines City Church. It is also allowing the the body to interface with our immediate family and to become the Acts 2:42 Church. Jane and I have recognized in the past few months that the Des Moines Church is beginning to take on the image that will be that sweet aroma that God has always intended. "We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that we (live lives) declares the praises of Him who (has) called us out of darkness into His wonderful light."