

Name _____ Date _____

Handout 9-A

Debate Preparation

In our class debate, I will be helping to argue that the Gospel of John and the synoptic Gospels are (circle one):

- a. More similar than different
- b. More different than similar

Evidence to support my argument:

Points that the other side might raise:

Ways that I can respond to their arguments:

Prologue

John 1:1–18:

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things came to be through him,
and without him nothing came to be.
What came to be through him was life,
and this life was the light of the human race;
the light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world,
and the world came to be through him,
but the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own,
but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.

And the Word became flesh
and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.

John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.

The Book of Signs

Directions: As you watch your classmates' presentations, use the chart below to make notes about each of the encounters described in the Book of Signs.

Sign, Encounter, or Discourse	What happened?	What does this show about ...			
		... who Jesus was?	... why Jesus came to earth?	... Jesus' heavenly glory?	... Jesus' relationship to the Father?
1. Miracle at Cana					
2. The Samaritan Woman					
3. Cure of the Official's Son					
4. Cure on a Sabbath					
5. Multiplication of the Loaves					
6. Walking on the Water					
7. The Bread of Life Discourse					
8 Cure of the Man Born Blind					
9. The Good Shepherd Discourse					
10. The Raising of Lazarus					

Comparing Gospels

Directions: As you learn about the key differences between John’s account of Jesus’ Last Supper, Passion, Death, and Resurrection, and that of the synoptic Gospels, make notes in the chart below:

How John’s account reinforces the synoptic Gospels:	How John’s account complements the synoptic Gospels: