

The Word Became Flesh– John 1:1–42



MEMORY VERSE: But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12,13

DAY 1 JOHN 1:1-13 — Jesus Christ, the Word of God

1. What do verses 1-5 and 14 tell you about Jesus Christ?
2. Jesus is called “The Word” or “Logos” in Greek. Consider the meaning and synonyms of “word.” How do these apply to Jesus as “The Word?”
3. Why did God send John (the Baptist)? vv.6-8,15
4. What two opposite responses did people have toward Jesus? Why is this ironic? vv.9-13
5. What does it mean to be a child of God? v.13

John 3:3-6

6. What do you imagine living in the “light” looks like compared to living in “darkness?”

LEARN THE TRUTH

Welcome to the study of John! To get the most out of this study, ask God to open your eyes to what He has to teach you. Then read the whole passage for the lesson before answering the questions for each day. Using a dictionary or thesaurus will be very helpful in deepening your understanding.

DAY 2 JOHN 1:14-18 — Grace and Truth Through Christ

7. What reasons can you think of to explain why “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us?”
8. Define both “grace” and “truth.”
9. What is the “Law” that was given through Moses? Exodus 20
10. Do you think God’s Law is limited to the 10 Commandments? Why or why not?

Matthew 22:36-40

11. God’s law is good! Why then do you think we need grace and truth through Jesus Christ?
Romans 3:21-26

Romans 6:23

DAY 3 JOHN 1:19-28 — John the Baptist Testifies About Jesus

12. What did John say to the priests and Levites (religious leaders) about himself? vv.19-23
13. What do you notice about the tone of the religious leader’s questions?

14. Why did the religious leaders ask John if he was “Elijah” or the “prophet?”
Malachi 4:5-6 (Elijah)

Deuteronomy 18:15-18 (Prophet)

15. What happened when Jesus went to be baptized by John? Matthew 3:13-17

DAY 4 JOHN 1:29-34 — Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

16. When Jesus approached John the next day, how did John identify Him? vv.29-30

Hebrews 9:22

17. John the Baptist and Jesus were relatives (Luke 1:36). What then do you think John meant when he said he “did not know Him?” vv.31,33

18. About what did John personally experience and testify? vv.32-34

19. What differences do you see between the baptisms by John and by Christ?

Matthew 3:11-12

20. Define “witness” and “testify.” What do you think it means to be a witness for Christ?

DAY 5

JOHN 1:35-42 – The Power of Bearing Witness for Christ

21. What happened when John the Baptist was with two of his own disciples? vv.35-37

22. What does this tell you about John’s character and mission?

John 3:25-30

23. Why do you think Jesus asked John’s two disciples what they were seeking?

24. John’s two disciples first addressed Jesus as, “Rabbi.” A short time later Andrew called Jesus, the “Messiah.” Why do you think this is? vv.38-41

25. Peter (Cephas) means rock. Why might Jesus have changed Simon’s name when they had only just met?

LOVE THE TRUTH

Imagine being an eye-witness to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. In truth, we can be eye-witnesses to Jesus Christ, the Messiah, as we experience His love, grace, mercy and power in our lives through faith in Him. Our personal testimony about Christ is powerful!

John 1:41-42

The Word Became Flesh

There are 4 Gospels, or accounts, of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Matthew, Mark and Luke, are known as the Synoptic Gospels because they are similar in format, and include many of the same events and parables. The Gospel of John is unique because it goes way back to the beginning of creation where Christ was, and then jumps to His actual ministry, omitting the account of His birth and the parables that are included in the Synoptic Gospels. John clearly presents Jesus as God in the flesh, the living Word. Jesus repeatedly said "I AM," meaning He is God Himself and the source and supply of everything pertaining to life-light, air, water, food, guidance, protection...

Our finite minds have difficulty grasping all that is in this first chapter of the Gospel of John. We will spend our entire lives learning to understand and appropriate the truths about Jesus Christ. He is the Word of God, the physical expression of the Father's thoughts, ways, words, character and plan. He is God because He has been with God the Father since the beginning, and all things were created through him. Yet He came to Earth in the flesh so that we, with our finite minds, could personally know Him.

In the Old Testament Scriptures, God spoke through prophets of the coming Messiah. God's people, Israel, knew this well and were waiting for Him. God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the Messiah so that all might believe in Him, but God's own people did not recognize the very One they were anticipating. Many had their own expectations of what the Messiah would be like and Jesus did not fit that picture. But others, including Gentiles (non-Jewish people) did receive Him and are now His children.

God gave His people the 10 commandments through Moses, which benefit any society in any time or place when followed. He also gave His people other laws pertaining to health, justice, peace and life. Because

sinful humans are incapable of actually keeping the law, Christ came to pay the penalty of our sin by dying on the cross in our place. Through Christ, we are not only forgiven of our sins, but we receive the gift of grace and truth.

John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ by preaching in the spirit of Elijah, but John was killed for the truth he spoke, as Christ would also be killed for the truth He spoke and the claims He made. (Matthew 17:11) Some believe John was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Elijah, while others believe the fulfillment is yet to come in the form of one of the two witnesses spoken of in Revelation 11.

WALK IN TRUTH



What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus Christ? It means sharing first hand experience as in the case of Andrew telling his brother, Simon he had found the Messiah. Andrew brought many people to Christ, but we know practically nothing of what he said. He just took them to the Savior. Anyone can take people to Jesus. You just have to know truth and love people enough to tell your story. When we personally know the grace and truth of Jesus Christ and the power of His Spirit, others will be drawn to what we have and our testimony will be honest and powerful.

The most important legacy a person can ever leave is that of causing others to thirst for and seek after Jesus Christ themselves. We want to leave people with a taste and memory of Jesus Christ, rather than of ourselves. It is not about us. We must have the mindset of John the Baptist, when he said, "He (Jesus) must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30

Notes