

Week 1

7-Day Expository Bible Study through John 1

Beholding the Glory of Christ: The Word Made Flesh

Memory Verse:

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

— John 1:14

Day 1 – The Eternal Word

John 1:1–3

Theme: Jesus is not merely a teacher, prophet, or example. He is the eternal Word who is God and who was with God from the beginning.

Exegetical Reflection

What does John mean when he calls Jesus “the Word”?

John is showing us that Jesus is the full revelation of God. God has spoken finally and fully through His Son. Jesus makes God known because He is God.

What does John teach about Jesus before creation?

Jesus did not begin at Bethlehem. He was already with God in the beginning. He is eternal, divine, and distinct from the Father while sharing fully in the nature of God.

What role does Jesus have in creation?

All things were made through Him. Nothing exists apart from Him. This means Jesus is not part of creation; He is the Creator.

Personal Reflection

Why does it matter that Jesus is eternal and not created?

If Jesus is created, He cannot save us. But because He is eternal God, His life, death, and resurrection have infinite worth.

How does this reshape the way we view Jesus?

We must not treat Jesus as one helpful voice among many. He is Lord over all things, the source of life, and the One through whom everything exists.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is fully God, eternal, and Creator of all things.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the greatness and glory of Christ. Repent of treating Him casually, as though He only matters when we need help.

Hands – What should we do?

Begin this week by worshiping Jesus as Lord over your whole life, not just part of it.

Prayer:

“Jesus, help me see You as You truly are: eternal, glorious, Creator, and Lord.”

Day 2 – Life and Light in Christ

John 1:4–5

Theme: Jesus brings life into a world marked by darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome Him.

Exegetical Reflection

What does John mean when he says, “In Him was life”?

Jesus is the source of both physical life and spiritual life. Life does not exist apart from Him, and eternal life can only be found in Him.

How is Jesus the light of men?

Jesus reveals truth, exposes sin, gives hope, and shows the way back to God. He shines into the darkness of a fallen world.

What does it mean that the darkness has not overcome the light?

Sin, evil, unbelief, and Satan cannot defeat Christ. The world may reject Him, but it cannot overpower Him.

Personal Reflection

Where do you see darkness in the world and in your own heart?

Darkness is not only “out there.” It is also found in our sinful desires, hidden motives, unbelief, fear, pride, and rebellion.

How does Christ’s light give hope?

Jesus does not merely point out darkness; He overcomes it. His light brings conviction, cleansing, direction, and life.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that true life and true light are found only in Christ.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the light of Christ. Repent of hiding in darkness, excusing sin, or resisting His truth.

Hands – What should we do?

Ask God to expose one area of darkness in your heart and bring it into the light through confession.

Prayer:

“Jesus, shine Your light into my heart and lead me in the life that only You can give.”

Day 3 – The Witness to the Light

John 1:6–8

Theme: God sends witnesses to point others away from themselves and toward Christ.

Exegetical Reflection

Who is John the Baptist?

John the Baptist is a man sent from God to bear witness about the light. His role is not to draw attention to himself but to point people to Jesus.

Why does John make clear that John the Baptist was not the light?

Because even faithful servants of God are not the Savior. John was important, but he was not ultimate. Christ alone is the light.

What is the purpose of witness?

The purpose of witness is that others may believe in Christ. A witness tells the truth about Jesus so people can see Him clearly.

Personal Reflection

Why are we tempted to make ministry or faith about ourselves?

We often want recognition, influence, approval, or control. Even good service can become self-centered if Christ is not the focus.

What does faithful witness look like today?

Faithful witness means speaking truthfully about Jesus with humility, courage, and love. It means helping people see Him, not merely admire us.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Christians are witnesses, not saviors. Our calling is to point people to Christ.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the privilege of making Christ known. Repent of wanting attention, praise, or control.

Hands – What should we do?

Identify one person you can intentionally point to Christ this week through a conversation, prayer, invitation, or act of love.

Prayer:

“Lord, make my life a faithful witness that points others to Jesus, not to myself.”

Day 4 – Rejected by the World, Received by Grace

John 1:9–13

Theme: The true Light came into the world, yet many rejected Him; but all who receive Him by faith become children of God.

Exegetical Reflection

What does John mean when he calls Jesus the true light?

Jesus is the real and final light. He is not one source of truth among many; He is the One who reveals God perfectly.

How does the world respond to Jesus?

Though the world was made through Him, the world did not know Him. Even His own people did not receive Him. John shows the tragedy of human unbelief.

What promise is given to those who receive Him?

Those who receive Christ and believe in His name are given the right to become children of God. Salvation is not achieved by human effort or natural birth but by the gracious work of God.

Personal Reflection

Why do people reject the One who gives life?

Because sin blinds the heart. People often love darkness, independence, pride, and control more than the light of Christ.

What does it mean to receive Christ?

To receive Christ is to believe in Him, trust Him, welcome Him as Savior and Lord, and rest in what He has done.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that becoming a child of God happens by grace through faith in Christ, not by human effort, family background, or religious performance.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the grace that brings sinners into God's family. Repent of spiritual pride, unbelief, or assuming you belong to God apart from faith in Christ.

Hands – What should we do?

Examine your faith honestly: Are you merely familiar with Jesus, or have you received Him by faith?

Prayer:

“Father, thank You for making sinners Your children through Jesus. Help me trust Him fully.”

Day 5 – The Word Became Flesh

John 1:14–18

Theme: The eternal Son of God became truly human so that we might behold God's glory and receive grace.

Exegetical Reflection

What does it mean that “the Word became flesh”?

It means the eternal Son of God took on a real human nature. Jesus did not merely appear human; He truly became human without ceasing to be God.

What does John mean when he says Jesus “dwelt among us”?

The language points to God's presence dwelling with His people. In Jesus, God has come near. The presence of God is no longer centered in a tent or temple but in the person of Christ.

How does Jesus reveal God's glory?

Jesus reveals glory full of grace and truth. He makes the invisible God known. To see Jesus is to see the clearest revelation of who God is.

Personal Reflection

Why does the incarnation matter for our salvation?

Jesus had to become truly human to represent us, obey for us, suffer for us, die for us, and rise for us.

How does Jesus being full of grace and truth shape Christian living?

Christians should not separate grace from truth. Jesus is not harsh truth without grace, nor shallow grace without truth. He is perfectly both.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is fully God and fully man, the final revelation of God.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the nearness of God in Christ. Repent of thinking God is distant, unconcerned, or unknowable.

Hands – What should we do?

Spend time today thanking God for specific ways His grace has come to you through Jesus.

Prayer:

“Jesus, thank You for becoming flesh, dwelling among us, and making the Father known.”

Day 6 – Behold the Lamb of God

John 1:19–34

Theme: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Exegetical Reflection

How does John the Baptist understand his own identity?

John knows he is not the Christ. He is the voice crying in the wilderness, preparing the way for the Lord. His identity is rooted in his calling to point to Jesus.

Why does John call Jesus “the Lamb of God”?

This points to sacrifice, substitution, and deliverance. Jesus is the One God provides to deal with sin. He does not merely teach sinners; He takes away sin.

What does John testify about the Spirit descending on Jesus?

The Spirit confirms that Jesus is the promised One. Jesus is the Son of God and the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.

Personal Reflection

Why is it important that Jesus takes away sin rather than merely improves behavior?

Our deepest problem is not weakness, ignorance, or bad habits. Our deepest problem is sin before a holy God. Jesus came to remove guilt and reconcile sinners to God.

How does seeing Jesus as the Lamb of God create humility and hope?

It humbles us because our sin required a sacrifice. It gives hope because God Himself provided the sacrifice we needed.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away sin through His sacrificial death.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the mercy of Christ. Repent of minimizing sin or trying to cover your guilt apart from Him.

Hands – What should we do?

Confess one specific sin to God and thank Him that Jesus is sufficient to cleanse and forgive.

Prayer:

“Jesus, Lamb of God, thank You for taking away sin. Help me rest in Your finished work.”

Day 7 – Come and See, Follow Me

John 1:35–51

Theme: Those who truly see Jesus are invited to follow Him and bring others to Him.

Exegetical Reflection

How do John's disciples respond when he points them to Jesus?

They follow Jesus. John's witness leads them away from himself and toward Christ.

What does Jesus mean when He says, "Come and you will see"?

Jesus invites them into personal discipleship. Christianity is not merely information about Jesus; it is life with Jesus.

How do Andrew, Philip, and Nathanael respond to Jesus?

Andrew brings his brother Simon to Jesus. Philip finds Nathanael and says, "Come and see." Nathanael moves from skepticism to confession, calling Jesus the Son of God and King of Israel.

Personal Reflection

What does this passage teach about discipleship?

Discipleship begins with seeing Jesus, following Jesus, and helping others come to Jesus. Those who encounter Christ naturally become witnesses to Christ.

How does Jesus deal with skepticism?

Jesus is not threatened by Nathanael's questions. He reveals Himself personally and graciously. Honest skepticism can become worship when brought before Christ.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus calls people to follow Him personally and to invite others to see Him.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the beauty of Christ's invitation. Repent of apathy, fear, or keeping Jesus to yourself.

Hands – What should we do?

Invite one person this week to "come and see" Jesus through Scripture, church, a conversation, or prayer.

Prayer:

"Jesus, help me follow You faithfully and invite others to come and see who You are."

Closing Encouragement

John 1 lifts our eyes to the glory of Jesus.

He is not merely a good teacher.

He is the eternal Word.

He is the Creator of all things.

He is the light shining in the darkness.

He is the Word made flesh.

He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

He is the Son of God and King of Israel.

This chapter calls us to behold Christ before we try to serve Christ. It calls us to receive Him before we represent Him. It reminds us that the Christian life begins and continues with seeing Jesus clearly.

John 1 reminds you that:

- Jesus is fully God and fully man.
- Jesus reveals the Father perfectly.
- Jesus brings life and light into darkness.
- Jesus takes away sin.
- Jesus calls ordinary people to follow Him and point others to Him.

You are not invited merely to admire Jesus from a distance.

You are invited to come and see.

You are invited to believe.

You are invited to follow.

You are invited to witness.

So this week, stay close to Christ.

Look again at His glory.

Receive His grace.

Walk in His light.

And invite others to come and see.