

# The Word. The Light. The Life.

John 1:1-18

Bethany Assembly of God

9.3.2023

## **The Big Idea: You should believe in Jesus Christ.**

### **Introduction**

We're beginning a new series through the Gospel of John, written by John, the son of Zebedee and one of Jesus' twelve apostles. Read John 1:1-18. You should believe in Jesus Christ...

### **1. Because He is the Eternal Word.**

John starts the story of life in Jesus at the very beginning. "In the beginning" immediately reminds us of Genesis 1:1. This is the very beginning, before creation.

- God created by speaking, see Psalm 33:6. God's word expressed His thoughts and His will and brought them into being.
- The Word was with God. He was not created by God. He did not become the Word. He just was, but it's the next clause that's truly surprising. "The Word was God." How could the Word be both with God and be God? The relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit is something John's Gospel will address in detail, but for now, he presents the truth concisely.
- Jesus is God and everything that can be said of God can be said of Jesus, the Word. God is eternal. So is the Word. The Word is God and yet, is distinct from the Father, who is also God.

### **2. Because He is the Light of life.**

Jesus states at John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

- Through the imagery of light and darkness, John highlights a concerning part of the Gospel: many people reject Jesus. The Light of the World reveals the true nature of God and life and does so freely to anyone.

### **3. Because He is the unique revelation of God.**

Verse 14 says "the Word became flesh." He wasn't flesh; He became flesh. The eternal Word became human. He was fully God and fully man.

- The word John used that is translated "dwelt" meant "to pitch a tent" and it was the Greek word used to translate the Hebrew for Tabernacle. The Tabernacle was the precursor to the Temple and was the place where God's presence dwelt among the Jewish people. Now Jesus has fulfilled that. He is the new way that God dwells with people. But He doesn't just live among us. He came as one of us!

### **Conclusion**

Jesus is the eternal Word and the unique revelation of God. His purpose is not just to make us feel good but to reveal God to us so that we can have real life and walk in the Light.