

Session 03

# *The Living* **WORD**

**CENTRAL TRUTH** | Jesus is God in the flesh, the Living Word.

It's hard to find someone that isn't drawn in by good storytelling. After all, that's why so many of us are entertained by shows, movies, books, and video games—we appreciate a good story! John, the author of this Gospel account is a remarkable storyteller. Rather than starting his account with the birth of Jesus, he starts from the beginning—like, the very beginning when God created all things. Masterfully linking to the creation account in Genesis, John communicates that Jesus is God, and all things have been created through Him. In this week's session, allow yourself to be engulfed in the beautiful truth that Jesus, the Living Word, put on flesh and walked among us.

## REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

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What questions do I have about myself?

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What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

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**JOHN 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> All things were created through him, and apart from

him not one thing was created that has been created. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it.

**JOHN 1:6-10**

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light

that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was created through him, and yet the world did not recognize him.

**JOHN 1:11-14**

<sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, he gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of natural descent, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of

God.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

# JOHN 1:1-5



Refer to page # for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

## 📍 READ & RESPOND

In this passage, John begins his Gospel account by reminding his readers of the Genesis creation story. In fact, if you open your Bible to Genesis 1, you will find a few similarities with John 1. John teaches that “the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Who is this Word? Jesus is the Word, the One through whom all things were created. In Him, is true life—and that life provided light to a world covered in darkness. As followers of Jesus, we have become people of the light who are called to share the hope we have found with others. The God who created all things has rescued us through Jesus.

📍 Why do you think this passage and Genesis 1 share so many similarities?

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↑ What does this passage teach us about Jesus?

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→ What does it look like for us to share Jesus’s light with those around us?

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## 📍 MEMORIZE

Write out each of the words of **John 1:14** on separate note cards or scraps of paper and mix them up. See if you can put them in the correct order from memory.

## 📍 PRAY

*Lord Jesus, You are the true Light of the world. Thank You for rescuing me so that I can enjoy a relationship with God and experience new life. Give me courage to share this hope with others.*

Day 02

# JOHN 1:6-10

## 📍 READ & RESPOND

This passage highlights John the Baptist, a man who possessed a clear calling from God “to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him.” But John the Baptist was “not the light,”—he was sent to share *about* Jesus, the true Light of the world. John the Baptist’s life and ministry indicate that he humbly understood his calling and emphatically pointed others to Jesus (see John 1:26-29). True humility is found when we understand who we are in relation to who God is. This frees us to be the people who He has created and called us to be as we declare the good news of what He has done through Christ.

🔍 What does John mean when he says that “the world did not recognize [Jesus]”?

→ Read John 1:26-29. How does John the Baptist model humility? How can we demonstrate humility?

📌 What does it look like for you to regularly pray for those have rejected the good news of Jesus?

## 📍 MEMORIZE

Every time you wash your hands today, say as much of **John 1:14** aloud as you can remember.

## 📍 PRAY

*Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to bring light and hope to a dark and hopeless world. By the Spirit’s power, help me to humbly point those around me to Christ, the Savior of the world.*

Day 03

# JOHN 1:11-14

## 📍 READ & RESPOND

Jesus, the Son of God, put on flesh “and dwelt among us” (v. 14). Another way of thinking about this is that, in Jesus, God took up residence among humanity. Though Jesus was Israel’s long-awaited Messiah, John reveals that He was rejected by His own people. It is through faith in Christ alone that believers are adopted into God’s family. In Christ, we no longer have to look inward or to the culture around us to discover who are. Our identity is not in what we have, what we have done, or where we come from. In Christ, we are children of God who enjoy a relationship with Him and His eternal family—this is our true identity.

↑ Why is it significant that Jesus “dwelt among us”?

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↻ How does John make it clear that all people who place their trust in Him are saved and become God’s children?

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→ What is one way you can remind yourself today that you are a child of God?

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## 📍 MEMORIZE

Using colored pencils or pens, creatively write out **John 1:14**. Read the verse out loud five times. Finally, try to say it out loud five times without looking, trying to picture it in your mind instead.

## 📍 PRAY

*Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to dwell among humanity and make a way for me to enjoy a relationship with You. As I embrace my identity as a child of God, give me courage to share the hope I’ve found with those around me.*

Day 04

# COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

## 📍 READ & RESPOND

In his letter to the church at Colossae, Paul teaches believers of a truth we've seen in John's Gospel account: Jesus is supreme over creation, and all things have been created through Him and for Him. Paul also challenges believers to live in light of their allegiance to Jesus. Because Jesus is supreme over all things, our conduct should reflect this. There is no shortage of voices in our lives that invite us to do what we want and be the captains of our own destiny. Though this can be tempting, we must remember that we can only find true freedom through following King Jesus.

← Why do you think it was important for Paul to remind the church in Colossae of Jesus's supremacy over all things?

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↓ When do you find it most difficult to trust that the Lord is in control and cares for you? Why?

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↪ How can today's passage shape the way you pray?

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## 📍 MEMORIZE

Tell a friend or family member that your memory verse this week is **John 1:14**, and explain what it means. Then, invite that person to randomly quiz you on the verse at some point today.

## 📍 PRAY

*Lord Jesus, all things have been created through You and for You. May the way that I live and treat those around me reflect the fact I have been transformed by Your grace and follow You.*

Day 05

# HEBREWS 1:1-4

## 📍 READ & RESPOND

Have you ever asked, or has someone close to you ever asked, what God is like? It's a good question, and one that the author of Hebrews boldly gives an answer to: God has "spoken to us by his Son." Jesus is the pinnacle of God's revelation of Himself—and through Him, we can know and have a relationship with God. Jesus died for us and now reigns as the risen King over all things. What good news! In the midst of difficult times, this truth can anchor our discouraged hearts. The Lord is the Creator, Sustainer, and Ruler of all things; therefore, we do not have to be afraid of what may or may not come our way.

↑ What does this passage teach us about the ways God has spoken?

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→ How can the Lord's authority over all things give you courage during difficult times?

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↔ If a someone you know asked you what God is like, how would you respond?

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## 📍 MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of **John 1:14** on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

## 📍 PRAY

*Gracious God, thank You for revealing Yourself to us through Jesus. Because He is the risen King, I can have courage no matter what I face. Teach me to live in light of His supreme authority.*