



In the Flesh – John 1:1-5

December 10 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with an intentional prayer and some opening questions (10 minutes).

As you begin your time together, spend a few moments settling into a comfortable space. Have each person quiet themselves before the Lord, sitting up straight with feet flat on the floor. Be still and know that the Lord is God.

After a few moments of quiet stillness, prompt your group to pray the following portion of John 1 together in short breaths. While inhaling, have each person quietly pray the words “In him” and with each exhalation, have each person quietly pray “was life.” Do this for about one minute.

After prayer, close this time thanking God for your time together and asking him to accomplish the purpose of John’s gospel for your group: that each person in the group “May believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31).

After you’ve finished praying, ask the following question: “What is taking up the most mind-space during this holiday season for you?” Follow it up by asking, “Where does Jesus rank in the list of things you’ve been reflecting on this Christmas season?”

Break into smaller groups to discuss the Scripture (15 minutes).

Take a few moments to read Scripture and reflect on some questions that relate to John 1:1-5.

- Read John 1:14. Who does this verse reveal who the “Word” is? What does John 1:1-4 tell you about this person?
- In John 1:1, it says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” How does this description of the Word impact your understanding of Jesus and his divinity?
- What verb tense is used in verses 1-4? What verb tense is used at the beginning of verse 5? What is the significance of that?

Come back together as a large group to discuss the sermon (25 minutes).

- In his sermon, Dan talked about how John 1:1-5 gives us seven descriptions of Jesus: (1) Jesus was in the beginning; (2) Jesus is the Word; (3) Jesus is with God; (4) Jesus is God; (5) Jesus is the Creator; (6) Jesus is the Life; and (7) Jesus is the Light. Which resonated with you most? Why?
- What sorts of implications do these beliefs about Jesus have for people of either no religion or of other religions? How might the knowledge of Jesus’ identity in this manner propel you towards living on mission?
- Take a few moments in your group to think about what it would mean to apply these titles/descriptions of Jesus to your life. For example, if Jesus is the Creator, what would it mean for you to be his creature? Do you live in that way? Think about what one application for each of Jesus’ titles might mean for your everyday life and discuss them as a group.
- These verses describe Jesus as both “life” and “light.” Where are you needing “life” right now? Where are you needing “light?” Are there any places where you feel like the darkness is winning? Explain.
- Which of Jesus’ titles do you sense God inviting you to hold onto this upcoming week?

Finish with logistics and prayer (10 minutes)

1. Make sure to inform your group about the study devotions available to help you walk through our church's seven priorities! You can find that material at thecreek.org/devotionals.
2. Share any logistics that you need to share with the holidays coming up.
3. Finish your group session with prayer requests.