

SERMON OUTLINE

Jesus Became Man

John 1:1-18

We live in a dark time into which the living word, the true light has shown...

(John 1:1-5)

How can we be certain that the true light will never be overtaken by the darkness? Share it! (John 1:6-8)

How can we be certain that the darkness can never be the same again? Live it! (John 1:9-13)

How can we be certain that the light we see is the true light? Believe it! (John 1:14-18)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- What was the best light display you can remember seeing at Christmas time? Did you drive by? See it on the web? Construct it yourself?
- John roots the opening verses of his Gospel in the opening verses of Genesis. Compare John 1:1–5 with Genesis 1:1–5. What parallels do you see, and what do these parallels teach us about the message John wants his readers to hear?
- What does this account of the life of Jesus teach us about God, humanity, sin, redemption, and other doctrines?
- John 1:14 makes clear that when John speaks of “the Word,” he is speaking of Jesus. Thus, John begins his Gospel by providing a lofty portrait of Jesus: revealing that Jesus is God, giving glimpses of the Trinitarian nature of God, and teaching that Jesus was crucially involved in the very creation of the universe. List everything we learn about Jesus in these opening verses (1:1–5).
- According to verse 11, Jesus came “to his own, and his own people” (the Jews) “did not receive him.” From what you know from the rest of Scripture, both Old Testament and New Testament, what are a few other instances where God’s people reject God?
- What would you desire to put into practice this Christmas season that would remind you about some of the truth you have encountered in John 1:1-18?