

SERMON OUTLINE John 1:1-5

In the Beginning Was the Word

THE WORD WAS IN THE BEGINNING (1A)

What is "the Word"?

In the beginning of what?

THE WORD WAS WITH GOD (1B)

THE WORD WAS GOD (1C)

THE WORD WAS A PERSON (2)

ALL THINGS WERE MADE "THROUGH" THE WORD (3)

IN THE WORD WAS "LIFE" (4)

WITHIN THE LIFE OF THE WORD WAS THE "LIGHT OF MEN" (4)

THE LIGHT OF THE WORD SHINES IN THE DARKNESS (5)

THE LIGHT OF THE WORD OVERCOMES THE DARKNESS (5)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this passage is that the Christness of Jesus was even more awesome than anyone could have imagined. And the big takeaways are more fervent worship and eager obedience.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. As we continue to zoom further into John's Gospel, do you find yourself more of a big-picture or a detail person? How does that show up in your everyday life? Have you ever wished you could be more of one?
3. Which of John's nine claims concerning the nature of the Word (Jesus) do you find most impressive? Helpful? Encouraging?
4. If someone were to ask you to explain why John called Jesus "the Word," what would you say?
5. How does it bring you hope to know that Jesus has existed eternally?
6. What does the eternal fellowship of Father and Son ("the Word was with God") have to do with your life, now and into eternity?
7. Where in John would you take someone to show them the clearest statement concerning the deity of Jesus? What practical difference does it make in your life that Jesus is God?
8. As you consider Jesus' involvement in the creation of the world, have you ever considered the idea that all three persons of the godhead participate in everything together? Why is this significant?
9. Can you explain why it matters that Jesus does not have life or light, but that He is life and light?
10. Pastor Dave said that in light of vs.4-5 it is right to say that true knowledge of Jesus is necessary for genuine wisdom and understanding. What did he mean by that? How have you seen that play out in the world around you?
11. Is there any greater promise of greater hope than that the darkness has not overcome the light? How do we explain evil?
12. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God in John?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

13. Spend some time thinking through your understanding of heaven (especially what makes it desirable) in light of this passage.
14. Invite a non-Christian friend to join you at Grace in order that they might believe in Jesus as the Christ and have life. In light of vs.4-5, think about why they may or may not accept your invitation and believe the truths they hear if they come.
15. Try to capture "the Word" in a picture, painting, drawing, song, or some other artistic expression.
16. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

PRAYER POINTS

17. Adoration. Praise God for being eternally Father, Son, and Spirit, in perfect love, unity, purpose, power, and fellowship. Praise God for being light and life. Praise God for being undefeatable.
18. Confession. Confess the sin of desiring anything more than God. Confess looking for light and life in places other than Jesus. Confess any love for the darkness you experienced last week. Confess any doubt in the ultimate and universal victory of God.
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God for shining His light (His Son, the Word, Jesus Christ) into your darkness. Thank God for granting us the chance to share in His fellowship through Jesus.
20. Supplication. Ask God to give light and life and light to a non-Christian in your life. Ask God to help our church to live more and more in light of the true nature, work, and promises of Jesus. Ask God to grant us love for Him above everything else.