

GNCOMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

SERMON SERIES: "1ST JOHN"

SERMON TITLE: "THAT YOU MAY KNOW..."

DATE PREACHED: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND 2018

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•✎ SERMON IN A SENTENCE:

"Knowing Jesus should lead to sharing Jesus, which will lead to sharing in Jesus."

(use the questions you want to use, ignore the ones you don't want to use, and add any that you think would be good)

WARM UP QUESTIONS:

- ☞ Do you think most things about God are knowable in this life, or do you think God has concealed most things in this life?
- ☞ If you could ask God one question and get a direct (verbal) answer back from Him, what question would you ask?
- ☞ The Oxford word of the year in 2016 was, "Post-Truth". Do you think truth is knowable and universal, or is truth subjective and different depending on the person?
- ☞ Can someone know with certainty that they have eternal life in Jesus?
- ☞ What did the Apostle John think about that question? (read 1 John 5:13 below)

1 John 5:13 — "13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

◆ **Facilitator NOTE:** As you prepare ahead of time, look through the passages/questions below to help yourself prioritize the things that you definitely want to cover with the time you have available. You likely will not be able to cover all this material. Try to keep the studies to around an hour for the kids/kids helpers sake.

1 John 1:1-4 — "1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen

and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We write this to make our joy complete.”

- 🗨️ How sure was the author (the Apostle John) that Jesus was the “Word of Life”?
- 🗨️ What were three evidences John used in His personal testimony? (heard, saw, touched)
- 🗨️ What about us who haven’t seen, heard, and touched physical Jesus? Why do you believe? How have you experienced Jesus in your life that has confirmed His authenticity?
- 🗨️ We live in a “see it to believe it” culture...is this how it should be? What about gravity? Does “see it to believe it” work for gravity?

John 1:1-5; 14 — “**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it...**14** The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

- 🗨️ By reading the beginning of the Apostle John’s Gospel, how would you describe John’s view of Jesus? Who did He think Jesus was?
- 🗨️ If those things are true, than how does (should) that effect our lives?

Continued questions from... **1 John 1:1-4** — “**1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. **2** The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. **3** We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We write this to make our joy complete.”

- 🗨️ John uses the word “proclaim” twice (v. 1 + v. 2). Are we called to proclaim the Good News of Jesus like John was called to proclaim it? If so, what does it look like for us to proclaim the name of Jesus in our day and age?
- 🗨️ What makes proclaiming Jesus difficult for us?
- 🗨️ John uses the word, “Fellowship” twice in verse 3, and then will use it again twice in verses 6+7. What do you think he means by “Fellowship”, and what should “Fellowship” practically mean in our lives today?
- 🗨️ Do you think of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus to others as inviting them into the fellowship of eternal life with God and His people?
- 🗨️ John ends his introduction by saying he desires to help “make our joy complete.” How does this fit with what he had just got done saying?
- 🗨️ Where does real joy come from? Do you have it in your life? What tends to steal your joy?

TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU “TAKEAWAY”:

- ☀️ If you believe that Jesus is eternal life and love, than you will proclaim Him to the world, and will invite others to join in the fellowship of His Good News!
- ☀️ How can you tell your world about the truth of Jesus?

🔒 Close in prayer.

MATCHING THEME IDEAS FOR THE KID’S LESSON:

- I’d encourage a worship time if possible (youtube works great {Lifetree Kids}).
- Ask them if they have any things in their life that they need Jesus’ help with, and then pray for the requests of the group.
- And feel free to ask any of the kids if they’d like to say a prayer for the group.
 - Read John 1:1-5;14 — “**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has

been made. **4** In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it...**14** The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Ask the kiddos questions like:

- Who made everything? (you could be specific like, “Who made the trees? Who made the fish? Who made you?)
- Who was Jesus?
- Who gave us the truth of the Bible, God’s Word?

You could:

- Turn the lights off, and then say, “And God said, let there be light!” and then turn the lights on.