

"Are You Ready for Christmas?" John 1:1-18

The Apostle John (the "beloved disciple") writes about his personal experience with Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God. John summarizes his introduction to the Gospel with "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:14)

What is Christmas all about?

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."
—John 1:14

Big Idea:

Jesus Christ became a Man (Deity united with humanity) for the purpose of revealing God to us.

The Gospel of John

- Author: John- "the disciple whom Jesus loved"
- Date- probably late (80-90 AD)
- John 1:1-18 Prologue to John
- Written to- EVERYONE! (3:16)

Purpose of John's Gospel

"...but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."
—John 20:31

Who is Jesus Christ? He is...

1. Eternal (1:1-2,15)

Jesus, speaking to Jews...

"Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."
(John 8:58)

2. The Creator (1:3,10)
3. The Source of Spiritual Life (1:4)

Life (zoa); 36 times in John

John 5:26 "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so he gave to the Son to have life in Himself."

John 10:10 "...I came that they might have life and might have it abundantly."

Life (zoa); 36 times in John

John 11:25 "...I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies."

John 14:6 "...I am the way, and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."

1 John **5:11-12** "**And the witness is this, that God has** given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."

4. The True Light (1:5-9)

5. Our Savior (1:12-13)

6. God in an Earth Suit
(1:1; 14-17)

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing By John Wesley

*Christ, the highest heav'n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Off-spring of the Virgin's womb:*

*Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
Hail the incarnate Diety,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark the Herald Angels Sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."*

"At the first Christmas the Son of God became the Son of Man, that sons of men might become sons of God."

—C.S. Lewis

7. Explaining God (1:18)

"There are many men who would be god, but only one God who would be man."

—Christmas Card...

Who Did Jesus Claim to Be?

"I am..."

1. The Bread of Life (6:35)

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."

2. The Light of the World (8:12)

"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life."

3. The Door (10:7, 9)

"...Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep...if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved"

4. The Good Shepherd (10:11)

"I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep."

5. The Resurrection and the Life (11:25)

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies,"

6. The Way, the Truth and the Life (14:6)

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."

7. The True Vine (15:1)

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser."

"The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish."

—John 1:14 (The Message)