

Deeper Connection Study

Matthew and Luke both recorded the birth of Jesus in their gospel accounts. John, on the other hand, decided to go back to *the* beginning. He sought to provide the big picture and context of not only Jesus' earthly arrival, but the scope of his identity and purpose for all the ages. The arrival of Jesus is God's gift of love to us. *Today's Core Belief discussed: Jesus Christ.*

Read John 1:1-5, 9-14

1. How can the Word be *with* God yet also the Word *was* God (vv. 1-2)?
2. What truths did John proclaim about the Word (vv. 1-5; cf. Gen. 1:1ff; Ps. 33:6; I Cor. 8:6; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2-3)? Why do you think he chose to introduce Jesus in this way?
3. How would you define and describe "light" in this context (vv. 4-5; cf. vv. 6-9; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46; Ps. 36:9)? How is it set in contrast to the world? How fitting is this metaphor?
4. Why did God send his Son (I John 4:9-10; cf. Matt. 1:21-23; John 3:16; Rom. 5:8)? How does this truth bring incredible significance to Christmas?
5. Why do people celebrate Advent/Christmas yet either fail to understand it or dismiss its meaning? How has the celebration of Jesus' birth – God's gift of love - been devalued (even by Christians)?
6. How is God's gift of love to you an important part of your life? How do you share this amazing gift with others?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God that we have life, light, and love through Jesus Christ. Thank God for sending Jesus to be our Savior and Redeemer. Pray that you shine brightly for Christ and ask God to help you direct people to Jesus.



"Lost for Good?"

John 1:1-5 Pastor Bruce French
Christmas Eve Services 2017

Where does hope come from?

1. *Hope comes from a perfect* _____
John 1:1
2. *Hope comes from a perfect* _____
John 1:2-3

Take Home Truth

Hope comes from a perfect _____
John 1:4