John 1:1–18 | The Word Became Flesh

Attendee discussion guide • Read · Observe · Understand · Connect · Respond

Central question: Who is Jesus, and what does his coming reveal about God?

Today's passage: John 1:1–18. Read the passage aloud together using your Bible. Notice repeated words, contrasts, and questions before discussing their meaning.

1 | OBSERVE

• What words, images, or ideas are repeated in these verses?

• What does John say about the Word in verses 1–5?

• What contrasts do you notice (for example, light and darkness, receiving and rejecting)?

• What surprises or confuses you about verses 14–18?

2 | UNDERSTAND

As the group explores the passage, consider: What does John mean by calling Jesus "the Word"? What does it mean that the Word "became flesh" and "dwelt among us"?

3 | CONNECT: BIBLICAL HYPERLINKS

Read each pair of passages. Discuss: What is similar? What is different? Why might John evoke the earlier text? What does this reveal about Jesus?

Creation and light

John 1:1–5 ↔ Genesis 1:1–5

God dwelling with his people

John 1:14 ↔ Exodus 40:34–38

Glory and the revelation of God

John 1:14–18 ↔ Exodus 33:18–23; 34:5–7

4 | RESPOND: LIFE APPLICATION

- If Jesus makes the Father known, how might he challenge or deepen your understanding of God?
- What might it look like to receive Jesus and trust him in everyday life (verses 12–13)?
- Where do you need the light and life described in this passage?

5 | PRAYER & TAKEAWAY

One insight I want to remember or one response I want to make this week: