



In the Flesh – John 1:1-5

December 10 | Weekly Devotionals

Section 1: Introduction

The gospel of John is the fourth gospel in our New Testament. It's different than Matthew, Mark, and Luke (often called the "Synoptic Gospels" for their similarity of content), yet points us to Jesus all the same. John's intent with his writing is simple: So "that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Everything in this gospel points to that reality. Every story, every statement, every healing. John is saying, "Look at Jesus! Find life in his name! See the abundance of his Kingdom!" Of course, as John will show us, not everyone can grasp this truth. Some believe, yes, but some also chastise Jesus, berate Jesus, and turn away from Jesus, leaving you and me as readers to reflect on if we will be the same.

*But...*some of that comes later. For now, John begins his gospel with some theology about Jesus. He begins in John 1:1-5 by describing Jesus as the "Word," the logos of God.

Let's dive in.

Read John 1:1-5.

Section 2: Walk slowly through your passage.

1. Do the statements, "The Word was with God" and "The Word was God" conflict with each other (1:1)? Why or why not?
2. What does John mean by, "All things were made through him, and with him was not anything made that was made" (see John 1:3, Colossians 1:16, Hebrews 1:1-2)?
3. What verb tense is used in verses 1-4? What verb tense is used at the beginning of verse 5? What is the significance of that?
4. According to verse 5, where does the light shine? And what is the relationship between the darkness and the light?
5. Read John 1:14. Who does this verse reveal the "Word" to be? What does John 1:1-4 tell you about this person?

Section 3: Reflection questions

1. How do these verses expand or deepen your perception of the person of Jesus Christ?
2. These verses describe Jesus as both "life" and "light." Where are you needing "life" right now? Where are you needing "light?"
3. Are there any places where you feel like the darkness is winning? Explain.

Section 4: Pray the Scriptures

Using John 1:1-5, write out a prayer in response to what you've read or use the prayer already constructed below to pray this passage.

[Sample prayer]

Heavenly Father, thank you for this passage. Thank you for the divinity of Jesus as the Word, the Creator, the Light of the world, and the Giver of Life. In times of darkness

and uncertainty, help me to find solace in the assurance that his light can never be conquered. Help my belief in the truths of his identity not only be a creed but a living reality, impacting my daily actions and interactions. I love you, Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Section 5: Memorize Scripture

Throughout this series, we want to be memorizing Scripture. Use the prompts below to help you get John 1:1-5 into your heart and mind.

1. Write out the passage. Write down John 1:1-5 in your journal or on a notecard.
2. Memorize John 1:1-5. Using various techniques to memorize the passage, such as repeating it out loud, creating visual associations, or setting it to a melody or rhythm, take time to commit these verses to memory.
3. Review and practice: Regularly review the passage throughout the week. Recite it from memory and reflect on its meaning and significance.