

Advent “Jesus, Life and Light”
John 1:1-13
December, 3 2023

“To some, God is discoverable everywhere; to others, nowhere. Those who do not find him on earth are unlikely to find him in space. But send up a saint in a spaceship and he’ll find God in space as he found God on earth. Much depends on the seeing eye.”
- C.S. Lewis

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The world is the Word’s.

Life is in Jesus and life is what Jesus gives.

John 1:6-9

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

The world is filled with partial lights.

Isaiah 60:19

The sun shall be no more
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give you light;
but the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.

John 8:12

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 1:10-11

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

The revelation of Jesus was met with resistance.

John 3:19

19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.

John 1:12-13

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Starting over is something God is behind.

This light shines on.

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- 1.) What did God say to you through His word during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) How is John's Prologue growing your understanding of who Jesus is?
- 3.) What could it mean that Jesus was in the beginning and made everything? What could that mean about world and where all of this is going?
- 4.) How is it meant to give us hope that Jesus is doing more than saving people from sin?
- 5.) When we meet someone really pretty, talented, or virtuous, why are we either drawn to them or repulsed by them? How does our own sense of worth and value come into questions in these encounters? Can this give us insight into why so many resisted and rejected Jesus?
- 6.) Did you ever resist the life and light of Jesus? What were some of your reasons?
- 7.) What does it say about Jesus that in spite of all the resistance he knew he would face that he still came?
- 8.) How does John 1:12-13 show us that our entry into God's family by belief and new birth is not accidental? What should be the response from us considering all that intentionality by God?
- 9.) In what ways can your Grow Group help you apply this passage to your life this week?