

## 120119 Growth Group Study

### We Beheld His Glory: The Word John 1:1-5



**Background:** How one begins a story says a lot about what that story will be about. In his gospel, John begins with the Word who ‘was’ before anything else came into being. Whose greatness is matched only by His love. And who is powerful enough to ensure that the Darkness will not overcome the Light and that Death will ultimately be defeated by Life. Come join us this Sunday as we begin our Advent series walking through John’s introduction to the story of the One who was both fully God and fully man, the Word who became flesh and dwelt amongst us.

#### **Sermon Text (ESV):**

***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.***

*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. 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. 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.*

*14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.*

## Discussion Questions

### 1. Preparation

- a. As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
- b. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- c. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?

### 2. Sermon questions

- a. **The Word:** How do you best understand the word, “word” (“logos” in the Greek)? John uses “logos” to try to connect with the surrounding cultures of his time. If John were alive today, what word could he use (ie. think about what word you could use to try to connect to people at your work, home, school, etc).
- b. **The Light:** Jesus is the light to all humanity and the darkness does not overcome it. As Joel said, here is the “victory in the prologue.” Even the darkness of the cross does not overcome this light, Jesus shines on and on and on. This is our incredible hope. How do you live this hope practically during the Christmas season?
- c. **The Life:** During the Christmas season, where do you tend to go to find life? Do you tend to go to Jesus or to other things? Why?