

Small Group Study Guide:

John 1:1-5 - The Eternal Word: A Jesus Who Carries You

Overview

This passage introduces us to Jesus as the eternal Word. He is God from the very beginning, the Creator, and the source of life and light in a dark world. It challenges us to see Jesus as far greater than a convenient helper or moral teacher. Instead, He is the divine source who sustains everything, and in Him, darkness is overcome.

Our goal is to move beyond comfortable faith and restore awe for the power and majesty of Christ, understanding how this truth shapes our daily lives.

I. Icebreaker

What is something that felt “too small” or “not enough” to help you in a difficult situation?

II. Observe: What’s Happening in the Text?

1. What does John mean when he says, “In the beginning was the Word”? What is the significance of “the Word”?
 2. How does John describe the relationship between the Word and God?
 3. What role does the Word play in creation according to verses 3 and 4?
 4. What two key qualities does John highlight about the Word in verses 4 and 5?
 5. What is said about the darkness, and how does it respond to the light?
 6. What do you see as important or interesting in these verses? What stands out to you?
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III. Explore: Why Is This Important?

1. How does this passage fulfill or echo Old Testament truths about God’s Word or wisdom? (Consider Genesis 1:1; Proverbs 8:22-31; Isaiah 9:2)
2. Why is it significant that the Word is both “with God” and “was God”? How does this shape our understanding of Jesus’ nature?

3. What does it mean that “life was in Him” and that He is “the light of men”? How does this contrast with the “darkness”?
 4. How does this passage relate to other New Testament descriptions of Jesus, like Colossians 1:15-17 or Hebrews 1:1-3?
 5. What does it mean for us that “the darkness has not overcome” the light? How does this speak to real struggles or spiritual battles?
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IV. Apply: What Does This Change in Me?

1. How does recognizing Jesus as the eternal Word change the way you view Him in your daily life?
2. If Jesus is the true light in your life, what “darkness” might you need to bring into His light this week?
3. What areas of your life have you been trying to carry on your own, where you need to let Jesus carry you instead?
4. How can this passage encourage you to trust Jesus more deeply in uncertain or difficult circumstances?
5. What practical steps can you take this week to live more intentionally in the light of Christ?