

Abide in Me

*Mentored by the Master
Discipleship in Real Time*



Volume 10 - Number 12

The Week of January 19, 2025

Come and See
Is He Worthy?
John 1:1-13

We are wrapping up the first phase of Jesus' training strategy with His disciples—a period that lasted about four months. During this time, like the first disciples, we've been closely watching Jesus, listening to His words, and observing His interactions with others. The final event in this initial phase was the healing of the official's son, a moment that powerfully demonstrated Jesus' authority and compassion.

For the next two weeks, we will reflect on one of the most profound, poetic and powerful passages in Scripture: John's introduction to Jesus' identity. Here, John reveals Jesus as the eternal Word—present with God from the beginning and fully God Himself. This passage also introduces us to the stark contrast in responses to His coming: rejection by some and acceptance by others—with those who receive Him being granted the incredible privilege of becoming children of God.

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.

OBSERVATION (*What does the passage say and how does it say it?*)

Before your group meets, read the passage and answer the five "W's":

- **Who:** (e.g., Who are the main figures in this passage? What roles do they play?)
- **What:** (e.g., What is happening in the passage?)

- **Where:** (e.g., Where are the realities mentioned in this passage taking place?)
- **When:** (e.g., When do the events or truths described occur?)
- **Why:** (e.g., Why does this passage emphasize these truths?)

SUMMARIZE IN ONE SENTENCE WHAT THIS PASSAGE IS ABOUT:

(What is the writer's main theme and what is John saying about it?)

INTERPRETATION (What does the passage mean?)

1. What does it mean that the Word was *with God* and *was God* (v. 1)? Describe what eternity past was like before time itself began. Also read Genesis 1:1 and Colossians 1:15-17 to deepen your understanding of *eternity past*.
2. How does the description of the Word as Creator (v. 3) inform our understanding of Jesus' role in creation? What aspect of Jesus' identity stands out to you most? Why?
3. What is the significance of referring to Jesus as "Life" and "Light" (v. 4)? How do these terms reflect spiritual realities? Why does John emphasize that the Light was not overcome by darkness (v. 5)?
4. What does the rejection of the Word by *His own* (v. 11) reveal about human nature?

5. What does it mean that those who believe are *born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God* (v. 13)?

APPLICATION (*How does the passage apply to our lives?*)

1. How does knowing Jesus as the eternal God influence how you prioritize your time, worship, and daily decisions this week?
2. How can you share the message of Jesus as the eternal Word, Creator, and the essence of Light with those in spiritual darkness?
3. How can you graciously respond when others reject Jesus? Share a personal example or a strategy you've found helpful.
4. Take a moment to reflect on your identity as a child of God. How does this truth give you confidence or shape your view of yourself?
5. How does this passage help you see Jesus and the gospel more clearly?
 - Discuss how being born of God in simpler terms means that becoming God's child is a supernatural work of grace.
 - How might it change your life to truly grasp who Jesus is?

Personal Reflection: Write down one specific way you will respond to Jesus' identity as the Word this week—whether in worship, sharing your faith, or making a life decision.

Sermon Notes: *Is He Worthy?*

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