

# *Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies*

## I JOHN 1:1-4

### Lesson 2

#### REVIEW:

As you think about all the subjects covered in I John, which are you most looking forward to studying? Why?

#### FIRST DAY:

Read and study I John 1:1-4 inductively. *See pages 5 and 6.*

#### SECOND DAY: Read I John 1:1,2

1. John begins this letter in a way that reminds us of the way he began his Gospel. Scan the first few verses of the Gospel of John and note any similarities you find.
  - a. How do these verses verify both the divine and human natures of Jesus Christ?
2. What two phrases are used to describe Jesus in I John 1:1?
  - a. Jesus Christ was with the Father *in the beginning*. According to the Gospel of John 1:3, what was He doing?
  - b. Jesus not only preached the *Word of Life*, He was the *Word of Life*. What was John saying about Jesus when he referred to Him as the *Word of Life*? (Use John 1:4; 11:25; and 14:6 for your answer)

Challenge: Look up the word *Word* as it is used in I John 1:1 in a Bible Dictionary. Explain its use in describing Jesus.

3. How is Jesus described in I John 1:2?
  - a. What is *eternal life*? See John 17:3.
4. John chose significant phrases to describe Jesus Christ. What are some of your favorite words or phrases that describe Jesus?

### THIRD DAY: Read I John 1:1,2

1. Unlike us, John had physical contact with Jesus. In what ways did John experience Jesus that we have not?
  - a. The words *seen* and *looked upon* do not have the same meanings. The words *looked upon* mean more than just *saw* Him. They mean to *scrutinize, gaze on, watch as one would a drama*. Put yourself in John's place for a moment. What would it have been like to be with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration; to touch the nail prints in His hand as Thomas did? Write a sentence or two expressing your wonder.
2. One of the purposes of the book of I John was to counter the heresies of the Gnostic teachings that were creeping into the early church. Gnostics believed that matter was evil. Therefore, God could not have become flesh. John is making it very clear that he had indeed touched and handled God. Considering John's purpose for writing, why do you think it was important to stress this fact?
  - a. Many have said, "If I could have only seen Jesus and touched Him like the disciples did, it would be easier for me to believe." What did Jesus say to Thomas in John 20:29?
    - 1.) Describe a time when you, by faith, *believed* God. In what ways were you blessed?
3. The word *manifested* occurs twice in I John 1:2. Look up this word in a dictionary and then explain what it means that Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, was *manifested* to us.

*Simon Peter replied, "Master, to whom shall we go?  
You alone have the words that give eternal life,  
and we believe them and know You are the holy Son of God."  
-John 6:68 TLB*

### FOURTH DAY: Read I John 1:3

1. Now, we come to the subject and verb of the long sentence that began in verse 1. Why did John *declare* or *proclaim* what he had *seen* and *heard*?
  - a. The word *fellowship* literally means *having in common*. It has the dual sense of participation together in a shared activity or belief, and secondly, a union together because of this shared experience. Who is our fellowship with?

- b. It is not only John's desire for us to have *fellowship* with God. What does Jesus pray in John 17:21?

- 1.) God **wants** to have *fellowship* with us, as believers. Stop for a moment and meditate on this wonderful privilege. What thoughts come to your mind when you think about the **fact** that the Almighty, Holy God, The Creator, desires fellowship with **you**?
2. Belonging to God also enables believers to have a sweet fellowship with one another. Describe how fellowship with other believers compares to friendships with those who are not believers.

### **FIFTH DAY: Read I John 1:4**

1. Write I John 1:4.
2. We were created to know this *fulfillment of joy*. Note again the condition from the prior verse which must be met for us to experience true *joy*.
3. Record what these verses say about *joy*:
  - a. John 15:11
  - b. Habakkuk 3:18
4. What is the difference between joy and happiness?
  - a. God never promised us a life of continual happiness. He has, however, promised us joy. What is Jesus' desire for us, according to John 17:13?
    - 1.) What prevents us, as Christians, from experiencing joy?
    - 2.) Share some practical things you do, when you find joy lacking in your life.

- b. What is Jesus going to one day experience joy over? See Jude 1:24.

.....AMAZING, isn't it!

*Oh, how marvelous! Oh, how wonderful!  
And my song shall ever be.  
Oh, how marvelous! Oh, how wonderful  
is my Savior's love for me!*

**REVIEW: Review I John 1:1-4**

1. If you could go back with John and experience one event with Jesus, what would it be? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Briefly summarize John's presentation of Jesus in I John 1:1-3.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does having *joy* mean to you?

*We are writing to you about something which has always existed yet which we ourselves actually heard and saw with our own eyes: something which we had opportunity to observe closely and even to hold in our hands, something of the Word of life! For it was life which appeared before us: we saw it, we are eye-witnesses of it, and are now writing to you about it. It was the very life of all ages, the life that has always existed with the Father, which actually became visible in person to us. We repeat, we really saw and heard what we are now writing to you about. We want you to be with us in this - in this fellowship with the Father, and Jesus Christ His Son. We write and tell you about it, so that our joy may be complete.*

*-I John 1:1-4 JBP*

## I John 1:1-4

### VERSE

### WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING

- 1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
- 2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)
- 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- 4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

Who:

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?