

SERMON-BASED STUDY: JESUS IS

John 1:1-9, ESV – *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.*

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we learned that Jesus is God, the Creator, and the Life Giver. Why do you think it was important for John to start with creation when describing Jesus?

2 How has Jesus given us physical life? How has He given us spiritual life?

3 What does it mean for Jesus to be “the light of men”? Why is it important for us to remember that we are witnesses of His light?

DIGGING DEEPER

A *Colossians 1:15-20, ESV* – ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

7 Looking at the passage above, we see Paul emphasizing the supremacy of Jesus. Why is the supremacy of Jesus such an important theme to understand?

8 Paul describes Jesus as “the image of God.” How does your view of Jesus reflect this understanding? Do you think your view of Jesus is complete? Explain.

9 Jesus’ supremacy makes Him the head of the Church. What does it look like for the Church to follow Jesus as the head? What does it look like for individuals within the Church to follow Jesus in this manner?

B *1 John 1:1-4, ESV – That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*

4 Why is it important that John and others heard, saw, and touched Jesus, and didn't just relate a story someone else told?

5 John speaks of Christian fellowship. How can we, as a community, best express the fellowship that the gospel creates? What would it look like to love one another in our everyday lives?

6 How was their joy made complete by "writing these things"? How have you found joy in witnessing to others?

TAKING IT HOME

Jesus, being God, created everything, sustains everything, and will bring everything to completion. As such, He has ultimate authority over everything, including our lives. How does Jesus' authority over your life affect you on a daily basis? How does it give you confidence, hope, or assurance? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to obey Christ as the supreme authority of your life.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 1:1-5, 2:7

Matthew 5:14-16

John 14:6-7

Acts 17:28

1 Corinthians 8:6

Hebrews 1:2-3

Revelation 1:8