

Gospel of John: That You Might Believe - John

[John 1:1-18](#)

"God Made Known" – February 7, 2021



Introduction

It's no secret that our world is broken. Many voices rise up to give a solution our problems, but none of them live up to task. John opens up his Gospel pointing us to the one voice, the one Word, that has the power to change everything.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Who is the Word?
- II. What does the Word accomplish?

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [1:1-18](#)

We see in John's prologue that the Word has power and authority to create. This is the Word that was in the beginning. ([1:1-2](#)) He not only created everything, but He recreates broken men and women as we will study throughout John. This Word, John says, is God. He tells us that this Word is Jesus, the God-Man ([1:14](#)). God, in Christ, became flesh and dwelt among us. Take a moment to reflect on the fact that Jesus is both fully God and fully man. If He is the eternally pre-existent God who created all things (v3), how should that shape the way we relate to Him? How should that shape the way we make sense of trials that come in a broken world? If Jesus is also fully man, if He's experienced what we have in living in a fallen world, what does that mean for us now (see Hebrews 4:15-16).

John introduces us to three accomplishments that the Word accomplishes: He exposes the world, He reveals the Father, and lastly, He gives new life. Jesus' life, teaching, and miracles prove that He is the light of the world and a light that exposes the darkness ([1:4-5](#)). The world is hostile to God. Yet, He exposes the darkness. He turns the lights on darkness. He shows the world and us what we really look like. What are some ways you've been convicted by the person of Jesus Christ as detailed in the pages of Scripture? Why would anyone forsake God as their ruler? The Bible tells us there is no good reason for us to reject God. The problem is in us, not in God. Do you trust God, or do you tend to call your own shots? What are some ways you are working towards trusting Him more and leaning less on your own efforts?

The Word, as John says, reveals the Father. Jesus makes God known. The Old Testament wouldn't allow God to be seen for His glory was too much to behold. Is it possible we take this for granted with Jesus? We are able to see God, because of Jesus. We can know the God of the universe, because of Jesus. We can have a living relationship with God. Jesus is

called the Word, because He is the ultimate self-expression of God. Jesus shows us that God is full of grace and truth. When God is glorified, it means we see who God is. When God is glorified, we see His goodness, His grace and truth. Now we see dimly thru eyes of faith, but Jesus shows us that God is good and is far more gracious than we could ever imagine. Why do you see Jesus as precious to you?

Jesus also gives the right to be called children of God ([1:11-12](#)). What does this mean for you? Does He give this right to everyone? Jesus gives this right to all who receive Him (as Lord, as the Christ) and believe in His name. God forgives us and He makes us sons and daughters of God! Take some time to reflect on that! How should that reality, that experience of grace shape how we treat others? John tells us that you are made a child of God by being born “of God” ([1:13](#)). Yes, of course we have actions in this process, but it is only possible if we are born of God. It is the gracious work of God. This should produce humility in us. It should squash all grumbling and complaining and replace it with gratitude. Lastly, it should stir up a passion for evangelism. We have much to be thankful for and He is all powerful to walk with us.

Additional Reading: [John 20:31](#), [Genesis 1-2](#), [Hebrews 4:15-16](#)

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 1:19-51 “The Lamb of God”
