



## In Him was Life

### 1<sup>st</sup> in the “Life in his Name” Series

John 1:1-18, p. 886

September 2, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

#### Introduction

In this passage God introduces the Gospel of John and prepares the reader to receive its message.

#### The Text: John 1:1-18

- 1) The opening of John gives a birds-eye view of the rest of the Gospel and prepares the reader to understand and respond to the story of Jesus Christ.
  
- 2) The story told by the Gospel of John is introduced with four insights into the person and work of God that explain the Gospel’s message.
  - a) *This story teaches us that God, the one who made all things, will establish himself as the Lord of all and make his name great (vv. 1-5).*
  
  - b) *This story teaches us that God graciously reveals himself in general and special ways, all of which point to Jesus (vv. 6-8).*
  
  - c) *This story teaches us that God creates a unique people he adopts as his own children who are born entirely of God through belief in Jesus Christ (vv. 9-13).*
  
  - d) *This story teaches us that Jesus not only fulfills everything God had promised but is also the one who makes God known (vv. 14-18).*

John 20:30-31: <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

#### Response

The most important thing you could ever know and believe is that Jesus alone offers life.

## Sunday Text Questions for John 1:1-18

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- 1) Starter Question: What experience do you have with the Gospels, and what do you look forward to as we spend several Sundays going through the Gospel of John?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) V. 1 starts with a phrase clearly intended to echo Genesis 1:1: “In the beginning.” Why would John want to connect the story of Jesus with the Old Testament story?
- 4) V. 1 is also very important in explaining how God is Trinitarian in nature. How does this verse say that Jesus is God (see the third clause, v. 1c) and yet God is not Jesus alone (see the second clause, see v. 1b)?
- 5) What does the term “Word” (vv. 1, 14) communicate about Jesus and his ministry? Let v. 18 help you.
- 6) How does v. 10 serve as commentary on the world not only in Jesus’ day, but in ours as well?
- 7) Vv. 12-13 summarize the gospel, the good news of Christianity. What does it mean to “believe in Jesus name?” Let those verses assist you.
- 8) V. 14 records, quite simply, one of the most remarkable facts in human history. What is the significance of this verse? How does its occurrence change everything?
- 9) What does John mean in v. 17 when he describes Jesus as both “grace and truth?”
- 10) How did this introduction to John (vv. 1-18) help prepare you to understand the story the Gospel will tell and to receive its message?

**Further study this week:** Genesis 1:1-5 and compare it to John 1:1-5 (Mon); Colossians 1:15-20 on Jesus as Creator of all things (Tues); Ephesians 6:10-20 on unseen spiritual conflict (Wed); Matthew 3 on John the Baptist (Thurs); Isaiah 53 on the ministry of Jesus in the “flesh” (Fri).