

Texts: John 1:1-5

The purpose of John's Gospel is that everyone, everywhere would believe in Jesus and find life in Him (John 20:30-31).

- Question for reflection: Where is unbelief showing up in my life lately? What lie am I believing instead?

Contextual language (John 1:1)

- Jesus is the Word
- Question for reflection: How is Jesus making Himself personally known to me in my context?

Exalting declarations (John 1:1-3)

- Jesus is God
- Jesus is the Creator
- Question for reflection: How big do I allow Jesus to be in my life? How am I making Him smaller?

Soul satisfying claims (John 1:4-5)

- Jesus is the source of Life (**ζωή** – Zoe)
- Jesus is the source of Light
- Jesus is greater than any darkness in your life or of this world!
- Question for reflection: What needs to die in my life so that I can experience Jesus' life? Where is there darkness? How can I let Jesus' light lead me into freedom from darkness?

In Jesus, life and light are not fleeting because Jesus is God present with you.

*Advent Cards: Remember to pick up a set for you and others to help stay focused on Jesus' presence with you, especially in this busy season.

Pray: Lay down any distractions, control, fears, etc. that will keep you from fully engaging in your time together.

Looking Back:

Who is participating in the daily Advent readings? What has been your experience so far?

Reflecting on Thanksgiving, what is one thing you are thankful for lately?

Looking up:

Read John 1:1-5

Why is John's choice of contextual language significant for the purpose of His writing (see John 20:30-31)? How does it strike you as personally significant? And how does it influence how you talk to others about Jesus?

In what ways has Jesus gotten bigger to you the more you have grown in your faith? In what ways has He grown smaller (even if not intentionally)?

Which of the questions for reflection were most helpful to you? Why?

Does this passage bring any other Scriptures to mind? How does this story press you into prayer?

Looking forward:

Who is someone in your life who needs to hear about the significance of Jesus' life and light?

Pray: Pray for the people you just mentioned and an opportunity to tell them of the significance of Jesus. Pray for where you see unbelief in your life and where you are pursuing substitutes for Jesus' presence.

Advent Readings:

Don't forget to pick up your Advent cards and participate in the daily readings. You can follow along on social media too.