

*"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin."*  
*John 1:7*



*Winter 2023*

session one

# Welcome!!



A new session of Bible Study opens the door for us to learn and experience God in a new way. I am so excited that you are here and that together we will open the pages of 1, 2, & 3 John. Get ready for a great time in the Word together!

Whether you are gathering with us in person or online, the same teaching sessions and handouts are available for you. I want to encourage you with the pace of this study....these are short books...in fact, the last two only have one chapter each. This is an 8-session study, so you will be reading roughly one chapter each week with some personal work to be completed at home. The following week your group will discuss the completed work, so please do your best to come ready to participate! If you have any questions regarding the study, please reach out to me via email at [cjamison@eastridgetoday.com](mailto:cjamison@eastridgetoday.com)

Blessings,

Cheryl Jamison



# Teaching Notes

#EW\_beinthelight



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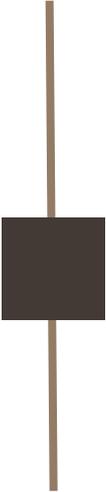
# Introduction to 1 John

In addition to the historical elements that you heard in our lecture today, here are some written notes regarding 1 John 1:1-4:

## **Observations on this first portion of the book, which is one long sentence in the original manuscript.**

- a. John began with the beginning – the eternal God, who was before all things.
- b. He told us that this God was physically manifested and that he and others could testify to this as eyewitnesses.
- c. He told us that this God is the Word of life, the Logos.
- d. He told us that this God is distinct from the person of God the Father.
- e. He told us that we may have fellowship with this God and that we are often introduced into this fellowship with God by the fellowship of God’s people.
- f. He told us that this eternally existent God, the Word of Life, who was physically present with the disciples and others (and present for fellowship), is God the Son, named Jesus Christ.
- g. He told us that fellowship with Jesus leads to a life lived in fullness of joy.
- h. We could say that in these four verses, John gave us enough to live our whole Christian life on. No wonder one commentator wrote, “Observe the note of wonder in the Apostle’s language. Speech fails him. He labors for expression, adding definition to definition.” (Expositor’s)

(<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/1-john-1/>)



# Group Discussion

- At the end of today's lecture, you were asked the question:

How would you put into words your personal expression or experience with Christ? If John had heard, seen, and touched Jesus.....what you have experienced in your walk with Him? You may not have seen him or touched him, but what faith experiences have you had that confirmed that Christ is real in your life? In truth, this is part of your personal testimony!!

- The Apostle John frequently states why he was writing. As a group, look up each of these statements and discuss why he would be motivated in this way:

1 John 1:4

1 John 2:1

1John 2:26

1 John 5:13 (this reference lists two different reasons)

- What stood out to you the most about the Apostle John from our teaching today?

# Personal Study 1 John 1:1-4

1. Look up the following references and cross-reference them between the Gospel of John and 1, 2, or 3 John. write a one-sentence summary of each comparison

1 John	Gospel of John	Comparison Summary
1:1	1:1,14	
1:4	16:24	
1:6-7	3:19-21	
2:7	13:34-35	
3:8	8:44	
3:14	5:24	
4:6	8:47	
4:9	1:14, 18, 3:16	
5:9	5:32,37	
5:12	3:36	



# Personal Study 1 John 1:1-4

1. Rather than say Jesus, or Christ, or the Son of God; John writes "the Word of life." What does he seem to be emphasizing? (Read: 1 Jn. 5:11-13)

2. What had Jesus already said about life? (Read these verses in the Gospel of John for the answers: John 6:35, 6:48, 8:12, 14:6)

3. What does John hope to achieve for those who read and are convinced by his testimony? (1 John 1:3) From this verse alone, what do we learn about fellowship ?

4. What does John hope to achieve for those who read and are convinced by his testimony? (1 John 1:3) From this verse alone, what do we learn about fellowship ?

# Personal Study 1 John 1:1-4

5. John clearly echoes an idea Jesus brought before His disciples the night before His crucifixion. He wanted the fullness of joy for them - even knowing that the cross was directly in front of them. Write the following verses from the Gospel of John that speak of the fullness of joy:

John 15:11

John 16:24

John 17:13

6. John connects the fullness of joy to fellowship with Jesus and with other believers. Why do you think this is something he considers beneficial?

7. Personal Question: Where are you in your journey of living a joy-filled life? If you feel like you are lacking in this area, what can you do based on the words of John to go deeper in this area?

Read 1 John 1 each day this week in preparation for next week's teaching