

As you read...

As John begins writing his account of Jesus' life and ministry, he is very intentional in the way that he starts. He wants to make sure that the focus of each reader is where his focus is as well: on Jesus.

He does this in a somewhat strange way. Rather than use Jesus' name specifically at first, John talks about Jesus using other language such as "the Word" or "the light" while also simply referring to Jesus as "He" or "Him."

Even so, what John has to say about Jesus here in this first chapter is as profound for John as it is for us.

He makes some incredible claims about Jesus: that He is God incarnate—the Word made flesh (and therefore He was present at creation) and in Him we find both light and *life* in a world too often filled with darkness and death.

It's here in the first verses of John's Gospel that we find the first mention of the precious promise of *life* that is offered to all who believe in Jesus.

As we continue on this reading plan together, watch as John continues to point us to that promise of *life* that is only found in Jesus.

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

Prologue

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. ⁴In him was **life**, and that **life** was the light of men. ⁵That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was created through him, and yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, he gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name, ¹³who were born, not of natural descent, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified concerning him and

exclaimed, “This was the one of whom I said, ‘The one coming after me ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.’”) ¹⁶ Indeed, we have all received grace upon grace from his fullness, ¹⁷ for the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. The one and only Son, who is himself God and is at the Father’s side—he has revealed him.

Questions

1. John has his own unique way of describing Jesus as he begins writing this account of Jesus’ life and ministry. How would you begin to describe Jesus to someone who was just hearing about Him for the first time?
2. In verse 4, John says, “In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.” As we start this journey focusing on that word life, what do you think it means that life is found in Jesus?
3. We can search for life in many different places in this world but we will only find it in Jesus. Where are some of those places you have been tempted to find life in only to fall short of expectations? What areas of your life are you being led to let go of so that you can find life in Jesus?

A moment to pray.

Father, send Your Spirit to search my heart and make You known once again through Your Word. Thank You for the reminder that life

can only be found in Jesus. Help me to pursue that life today. In Jesus' name. amen.