SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

John

Chapter 1

The Word Became Flesh

MEMORY VERSE · JOHN 1:12

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,"

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in John 1

John 1 starts before the world began and ends with Jesus calling ordinary men by name. This week, let the eternal Word come close: He became flesh and lived among us, He is the Lamb who takes away sin, and He still says, “Come, and you will see.”

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the John study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

In the Beginning Was the Word

READ · JOHN 1:1–5

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Write down everything verses 1–5 say about the Word. What was He, who was He with, and what came into being through Him (v. 3)?

REFLECT

"All things came into being through Him" (v. 3). If Jesus made everything — including you — what part of your life have you been running as if He had no say in it?

REFLECT

"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (v. 5). Where is the darkest place in your life right now, and what would it look like to let His light shine there?

RESPOND — TODAY

Read verse 1 out loud three times, slowly. Then tell Jesus in your own words who you believe He is.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 1:12)

DAY 2 OF 5

Not Received, Yet Received

READ · JOHN 1:6–13

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

According to verses 10–11, how did the world and His own people respond to Him? What does verse 12 say happens to those who receive Him?

REFLECT

"He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him" (v. 11). Have you ever been rejected by your own people? How does it help to know Jesus went through that first?

REFLECT

Verse 13 says God's children are born "not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." What have you been trying to earn that God gives as a birth, not a wage?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God by name for making you His child (v. 12). If you have never received Him, ask Him today.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 1:12)

DAY 3 OF 5

The Word Became Flesh

READ · JOHN 1:14–18

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Verse 14 says the Word "dwelt among us." What three things does John say "we saw" and what was He full of? Compare what came through Moses with what came through Jesus Christ (v. 17).

REFLECT

God did not shout from far off; He moved into the neighborhood in a body (v. 14). Where do you need to believe God has come close to you, not only to people who have it together?

REFLECT

"Of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace" (v. 16). Where have you seen one grace follow another in your life, even when you didn't deserve the first one?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down three graces you received this week. Next to each, write "from His fullness" and thank Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 1:12)

DAY 4 OF 5

A Voice and the Lamb

READ · JOHN 1:19–34

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List the three things John says he is not (vv. 20–21). What does he say he is (v. 23)? What does he call Jesus in verse 29, and what does that Lamb do?

REFLECT

John kept pointing away from himself: "I am not the Christ" (v. 20). Where are you tempted to make yourself the hero of your family, your group or your recovery story?

REFLECT

"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (v. 29). What sin have you been trying to carry or fix yourself, instead of looking at the Lamb who takes it away?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one sin you keep picking back up. Confess it to God, and picture handing it to the Lamb who takes it away.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 1:12)

DAY 5 OF 5

Come and See

READ · JOHN 1:35–51

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Trace who brings whom to Jesus in verses 35–46. What does Jesus say to the first two (v. 39), to Philip (v. 43), and to Nathanael (vv. 47–51)?

REFLECT

“What do you seek?” (v. 38). If Jesus asked you that question today, what would you honestly answer?

REFLECT

Andrew “found first his own brother Simon” (v. 41), and Jesus saw Nathanael under the fig tree before anyone called him (v. 48). Who is the one man in your life you could say “Come and see” to?

RESPOND — TODAY

Spend fifteen unhurried minutes with Jesus today, like the two who “stayed with Him that day” (v. 39). Then call or visit one man and invite him to come and see.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 1:12)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Of all the names given to Jesus in this chapter — Word, Light, Lamb of God, Son of God, Messiah, King of Israel, Son of Man — which one meant the most to you this week, and why?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Jesus renamed Simon "Cephas," a rock (v. 42), before Simon had done anything to earn it. What name do you think Jesus would give you, and how is that different from the names people have called you?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Nathanael started with "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (v. 46) and ended with "You are the Son of God" (v. 49). What doubt or prejudice did you bring to Jesus, and what changed when you came and saw?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, eternal Word who became flesh and Lamb of God who takes away my sin, I receive You today, and I ask You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · JOHN 1:12

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,"