

Why God Became Man

2. To Show Us His Glory

John 1:1-14

Introduction

How can we know anything about God? Some rely on thinking. Others on experiencing. But these have not given us clear answers.

But God has given us a way by which we can clearly understand who he is. It's by what he did 2,000 years ago when he was born as a baby.

That's what John tells us in John 1:1-14 —

Who is the Word? (vv.1-14)

The Word is a personal being who is God and was with God(vv.1-2)

Everything that exists was created by the Word (v.3)

The life we long for is found only in the Word; without him we are in darkness (vv.4-5)

John the Baptist bore witness about the Word, which means the Word is Jesus (vv.6-13)

What did the Word do? (v.14)

The Word — Jesus, who was fully God from the beginning — became flesh. He became fully man.

Why is that so important? (v.14)

It's because by coming to earth, Jesus makes it possible for us to see God's very glory.

Glory is the shining-forth of beauty and majesty.

God's glory, shining forth from Jesus, is full of grace and truth.

That's why Jesus is called "the Word," because Jesus is how God has communicated with us.

When we read about Jesus, and what he did, we can see God's very glory.

Why didn't everyone welcome him? (vv.10-11)

It's because of our sin.

In our sin we don't want to bow before God.

As a result, sin blinds us so we won't see God's glory in Christ.

But if we will look to Jesus, cry out to him to help us, and trust him — he will free us from our blindness.

As a result we will see his glory, love his glory, and want nothing more than to live for his glory.

So turn to him. Trust him. See his glory. Love his glory. And live for his glory.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What questions did Sunday's teaching raise in your mind?

What difference would it make if we had to figure God out just by thinking about or experiencing him? Why is it such good news that God himself has come to earth in the person of Jesus?

Share about times when you have seen and loved God's glory as revealed in Christ. How did that change you? Affect you? Impact you?

Do you agree that it's our sin that keeps us from seeing and loving God's glory as revealed in Christ? So what does Jesus do about that? What can we do about that?

How did Samuel Pearce's story impact you?

What could you change in your life so you would more regularly see and love and live for Jesus' glory?

What is the Holy Spirit stirring in your heart through this passage?

