1: WHO IS JESUS? JESUS IS FULLY GOD

BIG IDEA: The Father’s desire is for humanity to be his children — united to God and each other. Christ makes this possible.

عودة/إيسلينكر

الصلاة الافتتاحية

القراءة السماوية

1 John 1:1-18 (New Revised Standard Version)

(Circle key phrases or verses that stand out to you)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.
EXEGETICAL DISCUSSION

1: WHO IS JESUS? JESUS IS FULLY GOD
DISCUSSION QUESTION

DIVINE PARTICIPATION

What does this passage help you see in regards to Jesus being the “The Good Shepherd” and “The Gate” (or “Door”)?
CLOSING PRAYER

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
BEING WITH JESUS
2: WHO IS JESUS?

JESUS IS THE SELF-REVELATION OF GOD

BIG IDEA: To explore Jesus’ mission to reveal the Father and bring eternal life.

agogue

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-18 (New Revised Standard Version)

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DISCUSSION OF SCRIPTURE
APPLICATION

DIVINE PARTICIPATION

What does this passage help you see in regards to Jesus being the “The Bread of Life” in the Word of God spoken to us?

CLOSING PRAYER
BEING WITH JESUS
3: WHO IS JESUS? JESUS IS THE LIGHT

BIG IDEA: To explore Jesus as the Light and his witnesses to that Light.

🌐 WELCOME/ICEBREAKER

🌐 OPENING PRAYER

🌐 SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-18 (New Revised Standard Version)

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DIVINE PARTICIPATION

What does this passage help you see in regards to being followers of the Light?
BEING WITH JESUS
4: WHO IS JESUS? JESUS IS FULLY MAN

BIG IDEA: To explore Jesus’ identity as the Incarnate Word.

👋 WELCOME/ICEBREAKER

👋 SUGGESTED OPENING PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, make me worthy to understand the profound mystery of your holy incarnation, which you have worked for our sake and for our salvation. Truly there is nothing so great and wonderful as this, that you, my God, who are the creator of all things, should become a creature, so that we should become like God. You have humbled yourself and made yourself small that we might be made mighty. You have taken the form of a servant, so that you might confer upon us a royal and divine beauty.

You, who are beyond our understanding, have made yourself understandable to us in Jesus Christ. You, who are the uncreated God, have made yourself a creature for us. You, who are the untouchable One, have made yourself touchable to us. You, who are most high, make us capable of understanding your amazing love and the wonderful things you have done for us. Make us able to understand the mystery of your incarnation, the mystery of your life, example, and doctrine, the mystery of your cross and passion, the mystery of your resurrection and ascension. Blessed are you, O Lord, for coming to earth as a man. Amen.

Angela of Foligno, from her Complete Works
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APPLICATION

DIVINE PARTICIPATION

What does this passage help you see in regards to Jesus being the Resurrection and the Life?
CLOSING PRAYER

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

from the prayers of
The Northumbria Community, Scotland
BEING THE CHURCH
5: WHO ARE WE IN JESUS? CHILDREN OF GOD

BIG IDEA: To explore our response to the Word by reception or rejection.

😊 WELCOME/ICEBREAKER

😊 OPENING PRAYER

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John 1:1-18 (New Revised Standard Version)

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DIVINE PARTICIPATION

Does Jesus leave room for any other “way” or “truth” or “life” that demands our response?
BEING WITH JESUS
6: HOW DO WE GROW IN JESUS?
PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST

BIG IDEA: To explore our call to remain in Christ.

WELCOME/ICEBREAKER

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-17 (New International Version)

1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

9 “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other.
For our final “I am” statement, consider at least one way this week you plan to “abide” in Christ, “The True Vine.”
They tell me, Lord, that when I seem
To be in speech with you,
Since but one voice is heard, it’s all a dream,
One talker aping two.

Sometimes it is, yet not as they
Conceive it. Rather, I
Seek in myself the things I hoped to say
But lo!, my springs are dry.

Then, seeing me empty, you forsake
The listener’s role and through
My dumb lips breathe and into utterance wake
The thoughts I never knew.

And thus you neither need reply
Nor can; thus, while we seem
Two talkers, thou art
One forever, and I
No dreamer, but thy dream.

Poem on Prayer
C.S. Lewis