

6. Read John 17:5. What was Jesus doing before he was born as a human baby boy to Mary and Joseph?

7. For all you visual learners!!! Fill the area around the light bulb illustration below by drawing shining rays and writing ways that God illuminates the darkness all around us. Be creative!



8. Discuss how you think that John 1:5 should end. There are two choices as shown in different translations of the Greek word.

To master a lesson
comprehend (NASB)
understand (NIV)

To master an opponent
extinguish (NLT)
overcome (ESV)

1:5b “did not understand it”
1:10b “did not recognize Him”
1:11b “did not receive Him”

} Similar phrasing is found
in other verses in John 1.

There is an incomprehensible rejection of the light by darkness.

God Wants to Have a Word With You

John 1:1-5

February 7, 2016

BIG IDEA: Any view of Jesus Christ that sees Him as a lesser god or a created being or merely a peddler of life and light—is wrong.

1) The Word in relation to the eternal **God = Equal**, yet distinct

In the beginning was the Word [Logos],
and the Word [Logos] was with God,
and the Word [Logos] was God.
² He was with God in the beginning.

2) The Word in relation to the **universe = Creator**, not created

³ All things were created through Him,
and apart from Him not one thing was created
that has been created.

3) The Word in relation to **humanity = Source**, not middleman

⁴ Life was in Him,
and that life was the light of men.
⁵ That light shines in the darkness,
yet the darkness did not comprehend it.

1) IN RELATION TO GOD (John 1:1-2)

In the beginning – before time began, even before Genesis 1:1

The Word was already present in the **beginning**

was – a state of being, not becoming; **continuous** existence

The Word simply was, He did not become or start to be

the Word – not spoken words, or the act of **speaking**

John chose *Logos* because it was familiar to his readers.
To us it seems either technical, or abstract. John defines it.

“Word” is a good translation = divine* **revelation**

*from God about God by God

and the Word was with God

with = toward God implies **relationship**, *face to face*
not merely in the vicinity, or alongside
(Rom. 5:1; 2 Cor. 5:8; 1 Cor. 13:12)

= to be *with* implies a distinct identity for each

and the Word was God

John does not say *the Logos was a god* → many gods
John does not say *the Logos was the God* → no distinction

NOTE ON GREEK GRAMMAR (Wuest, BSAC)

"The presence of the definite article in Greek *identifies*, its absence *qualifies*.
When the article is absent, character, quality, essence are stressed."

The emphasis is on the deity of the Word. What is true about
God is true of the *Logos*. Same essence. Distinct substance.

He was with God in the beginning. (John loves **repetition** .)

2) IN RELATION TO THE UNIVERSE (John 1:3)

all things were created through Him *Logos* is eternal; **matter** isn't
Logos is **personal** "him"
" " is the creative agent of God
(Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; 1 Cor. 8:6)

*and apart from Him
not a single thing that exists
came into being*

3) IN RELATION TO HUMANITY (John 1:4-5)

⁴*Life was in Him and that life was the light of men.*

⁵*That light is shining in the darkness, yet the darkness has not understood it.*

God wants to have a Word with you. He says:

"You need Christ's life." Don't put it **off** .

"You need Christ's light." Don't put it **out** .

Life Group Homework

1. Why does John begin all the waaaay back before Creation?
2. In what verse does John identify that the *Word* is Jesus Christ?
3. From today's sermon, could you answer someone who told you that the *Logos* (the Word) of John 1:1 is not fully God?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 8:6. Then complete the following:
There is one God, the Father _____ whom all things came.
There is one Lord, Jesus Christ _____ whom all things came.
5. Read Colossian 1:16-17. List below everything Christ created.

Circle how many times the word "all" appears 1 2 3 4