

**DISCOVERING LIFE TOGETHER SERIES: THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
**WORD ALIVE: THE WORD ETERNAL (JOHN 1:1-12)**

**NOTES:**

**Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:**

**For Starters:** What are some things you hope to get out of studying John's Gospel? What has been your experience of Jesus up until now? How could understanding the person and purpose of Jesus through the eyes of one of his closest friends help you grow closer to God and others?

**The Basics:** Read John 1:1-18. This is John's prologue to the rest of the book. What major themes, ideas and key words stand out to you and why?

**Quick Fire Round John 1:1-12:**

- Read John 1:1-2, Genesis 1:1-2, and 1 John 1:1-4. What are the similarities and differences to these "beginnings"? What do you think John meant when he called Jesus "the Word"?
- Read John 1:3, Hebrews 1:1-4, and Colossians 1:15-20. Why is it significant that Jesus, as God, is preexistent creator? Would Jesus be worth following if this were not true?
- Read John 1:4-10. What do the common religious symbols of *light* and *life* tell us about Jesus? How has he brought these qualities into your life? Why is it significant that Jesus is not just the light for the few but for all?
- Read John 1:6-8 and Matthew 5:14-16. Who is John referring to as *the man sent from God*? How were both Johns witness bearers to Jesus? How can we live the same way?
- Read John 1:12 and 20:31. What was John's ultimate purpose for writing his Gospel? What does it mean to you to *believe in Jesus and become a child of God*? How does this purpose give all people great hope no matter life's circumstances?

**The challenge:** From this passage, how would you answer someone who denied the deity of Jesus? How could you support the doctrine of the Trinity (one God, three distinct persons)?

**Memorize John 1:12:** *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God*

**Prayer:** Father, thank you that Jesus is the Word. Thank you that you revealed yourself to the world through Jesus. Help me this week to be a witness bearer of Jesus to the people in my life.

**Resources:** <https://www.cru.org/content/dam/cru/train-and-grow/bible-studies/no-one-understands-jesus-study.pdf>; Bible Speaks Today – The Message of John, Bruce Milne; Exploring the Gospels – John, John Phillips.