

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 1, 2021

Passage: 1 John 1:1-4

Memory Passage: 1 John 1:1-4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:1-5:21.** As you read all of 1st John, take note of 2 groups of observations: (1) Repeated words, phrases, and ideas, as well as main ideas presented through the letter. (2) On a separate piece of paper, write down all the questions you have as you read. Place these questions in your Bible so you can record answers as you study over the next several months.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:1-4 & John 1:1-5.** What similarities do you see between the prologue of John's gospel and the prologue of his 1st letter? What do these similarities tell you about how to understand 1 John 1:1-4?

(b) What is the main verb in vs. 1-3?

(c) Explain the 5 relative clauses in vs. 1 & 3 (clauses beginning with "that which" or "which"). To what/whom do they refer?

(d) What is the purpose of this letter (one of many) according to v. 4, and how would this purpose be accomplished?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:1-4.** Verse 2 is a parenthetical thought. How does it connect with verse 1?

(b) Whose/what life is described, and what characteristics are given of this life in verse 2?

(c) What does "made manifest" mean? To whom was this life made manifest, and for what purpose?

(d) To whom does the "we" refer throughout these verses? On what do you base your answer?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:1-4.** For what purpose does John "testify" (v. 2) and "proclaim" (vs. 2, 3) about "the eternal life?"

(b) What is John trying to establish about himself in vs. 1-3 with these claims? Why might this be needed?

(c) How does John's (and others') testifying and proclaiming about "the life/the eternal life" lead to fellowship with them?

(d) What does "fellowship with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ" look like, and how does having fellowship with John (and others) lead to this kind of fellowship?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:1-4.** In what ways have you "seen," heard," or "touched" Jesus? Are these claims only for those who physically walked with Jesus can make? Explain your answer.

(b) How do you "testify" and "proclaim" about "the eternal life" to others? How do others "see," "here," and "touch" Jesus through you?

(c) In case you might have missed the obvious by my questions, John appeals to his eyewitness account of the incarnation of Jesus to establish his authority to exhort his hearers throughout this letter. His message is single-minded: Jesus lived (was made manifest) and eternal life is in Him. Fellowship with our triune God is exclusively found through Jesus Christ! Your mission (whether you choose to accept it or not) is to make Jesus known through your words. Is this something others say about you? In what ways must you repent? In what ways must you begin to manifest the name of Jesus to those around you?

(d) In what ways do you lack joy? According to v. 5, how might your joy be made complete through more consistent obedience to "testify" and "proclaim" Jesus' incarnation (His life, death, resurrection, and ascension) to those around you?

DATE: August 1, 2021

PASSAGE: 1 John 1:1-4

Proclaiming the Word of Life