

Essential Fellowship: 1 of 10
“An Invitation To Christian Fellowship”
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 6, 2022

- James & John were the sons of Zebedee. **Matthew 10:2-4**
- John, James and Peter were invited to witness the Transfiguration where Jesus talked to Moses & Elijah. **Matthew 17:1-3**
- John became a pillar of the Church in Jerusalem. **Galatians 2:9**
- John called himself, “The one whom Jesus loved.” **John 13:23**
- Jesus gave the nick name Sons of Thunder to John and James. **Mark 3:17**
- John & James wanted to call down fire from heaven on a Samaritan village. **Luke 9:52-56**
- John and James ask to be seated on Jesus’ **right or left hand** in the kingdom, an incident that caused a temporary rift with the other disciples. **Matthew 20:20-28**
- John was reclining next to Jesus at the last supper. **John 13:23**
- On the Cross Jesus choose John to take care of His mother. **John 19:26-27**
- John was an eyewitness and participant in Jesus' earthly ministry. **1 John 1**
- John wrote five books of the New Testament: John, 1John, 2 John, 3 John & the book of Revelation.

Big Idea: We can know the joy of life if we walk together in His light.

“Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”
1 John 3:18 (NIV) Remember Verse

John Gives Us An Eyewitness Account Of Jesus And Invites Us To:

1. Begin A Personal Relationship With Jesus

That which was from the **beginning**, which we have **heard**, which we have **seen** with our eyes, which we have **looked** at and our hands have **touched**--this **we proclaim** concerning the **Word of life**. The life appeared; we have **seen** it and **testify** to it, and we **proclaim** to you the **eternal life**, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.” **1 John 1:1-2 (NIV)**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of **grace** and **truth**. **John 1:1-5, 14 (NIV)**

The Bible Is An Accurate Historical Book

The Bible was written over a period of 1,500 years

By 40 authors (Kings to peasants) comprised of 66 books

In 3 different languages, from 3 different continents

Telling ONE story. God's salvation of men through Jesus Christ.

Comparison:

The Book of Mormon –single translated by Joseph Smith 1827

The Qu'ran –writings and records of one-man, Muhammad

The Hindu writings– stories of things that happened in the celestial realms

<u>Author:</u>	<u>When Written:</u>	<u>Earliest Copy:</u>	<u>Time Span:</u>	<u># copies:</u>
Caesar	100-44 BC	AD 900	1,000 years	10
Aristotle	450-385 BC	AD 900	1,400 years	49
Plato	427-347 BC	AD 900	1,200 years	7
New Testament	AD 40-100	AD 125	40 years	5,856 Greek 18,130 Armenian & Latin
Total =				23,986

Archeology Confirms: Events, people, places, and dates are historically accurate.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may **know** that you have eternal life. **1 John 5:13 (NIV)**

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10 (NIV)

2. Develop Deeper Relationships With Other Believers

We **proclaim** to you what we have **seen** and **heard**, so that you also may have **fellowship with us**. And our fellowship is with the Father and with **His Son, Jesus Christ**. We write this to **make our joy complete**. **1 John 1:3-4 (NIV)**

- Have you experienced the life changing relationship with Jesus?
- Do you have close Christian friends that challenge you to go deeper with God?

I will make my next right step this week by:

- [] Taking notes and talking them over.
- [] Joining a small group for the next sermon series in February
- [] Hosting a small group in February
- [] Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss]

Big Idea: We can know the joy of life if we walk together in His light.

Open in Prayer.

Ice breaker: What was your house like when you were 7?

What do you remember about your room?

Big Idea: We can know the joy of life if we walk together in His light.

Key Moments In The Apostle John's Life

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What do you learn about John's life?

What was he like when he was younger in his faith?

What was he like when he was older in his faith?

John Gives Us An Eyewitness Account Of Jesus And Invites Us To:

1. Begin A Personal Relationship With Jesus

Read 1 John 1:1-2

Have you ever had an experience that you couldn't wait to tell someone about it?

Why is John able to testify about what Jesus said and did?

Looking at 1 John 1:1-4, what are some of the reasons John wrote this letter?

How do these first four verses of 1 John 1:1-4 compare to the Gospel of John 1:1-5, 14? What do you learn about Jesus?

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Read 1 John 5:13

How confident are you in your relationship with Jesus to save you? Why?

Read 1 John 4:9-10

Who loved first, you or God?

How does this make a difference in your life?

2. Develop Deeper Relationships With Other Believers

Read 1 John 1:3-4

There are some who claim there are different levels of heaven. A higher level for those who are being good and lower ones for the average person.

How do these verses clarify your relationship with God and others?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.