Life Group Discussion Questions

Life Group Discussion Questions Based on John 1:1-18 For the week of February 27, 2022

Reading the Text:

- 1. John calls Jesus the '*Word*'. For Jews, it was God's dynamic, creative power in action. For the Greeks, it referred to the rationality and order upon which the universe depends. John writes, '*The Word became flesh*.' How is it that Jesus is the embodiment of '*the Word*'?
- 2. According to John in v. 3, what role did Jesus play in creation?
- 3. According to vv. 6 8, what was John the Baptist's role?
- 4. What does John mean when he writes that the true light '*enlightens everyone*,' (v. 9) and yet, "the world did not know him," and "his own did not receive him" (vv. 10 - 11)?
- 5. John describes Jesus as revealing the invisible God through '*grace and truth*' (vv. 14 & 17). What do we learn about the character of God through those two attributes?

Knowing the Full Picture:

6. Read 1 John 1:1-4. Compare this prologue with 1:1-18 in John's gospel. What common elements do you see that were key to John and obviously important to his original audience?

Living It Out:

- 7. Some people are comfortable thinking of Jesus simply as a good man, a moral leader, and an insightful teacher. How does John's introduction challenge this picture of Jesus?
- 8. How do you respond as you read John's portrayal of Jesus in 1:1-18? With questions? With doubt? With cynicism? With praise? In awe?
- 9. John assumes that it is in our fallen nature to resist the light and turn from the truth. Do you think this is true? If so, what does that mean for our sharing Jesus with others?
- 10. John knows that Jesus' identity as fully God and fully man is central to understanding God's plan. How can we celebrate this tension as we see it developed through John's gospel?