

Sermon Discussion Guide:

Paul Before the Council

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Scripture: **John 1:1-18**

Series: **Advent 2023**

OVERVIEW

On this last Sunday of Advent, we celebrate God's plan for the world in the birth of Jesus Christ. We expectantly await Christ's second coming while also remembering His first. The Apostle Paul writes in Colossians that, in Christ, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. Jesus makes God known to the people. Further, the Apostle John lays out in John 1 that Jesus, as the Word of God, is the true light of the world and through Him we receive grace upon grace. Scripture makes it clear that Christ is the embodiment of God's salvation plan ... but **is Jesus really the answer** for our fallen world?

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Psalms 107:20; John 8:12, 14:6, 17:5; Colossians 1:16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From John 1: 1-18 and the corroborating verses, identify and discuss what the Word is, what the Word has done, and what the Word continues to do.
2. Jesus is the true light (John 1:9). John the Baptist came before Jesus to reflect Christ's light and point people to Him. As Christ followers coming after Jesus, we also are given the privilege and responsibility to do the same. How are you, like John the Baptist, reflecting the light of Christ?
3. As stated in John 1:16, Jesus brings grace upon grace to those that believe in Him. What elements of grace do we receive from Jesus? What specific grace(s) have you received from God for which you are especially grateful?
4. What say you? Is Jesus really the answer? If so, to what question(s) is He the answer? In what specific ways does Jesus provide the answer that you need in your life circumstances? How would you explain the statement "Jesus is the answer" to unbelieving friends and family?