



BIG IDEA

How we love one another defines for our community what we really believe about Jesus. Our love for one another tells the watching world, “Here’s what we’ve heard from him. Here’s what we’ve seen about him. Here’s what we’ve looked upon and touched.” Our love for one another communicates to our community what it means that God has come into our world. The kind of love that’s sacrificial, costly, and messy. The kind of love that Jesus both displayed for us and commanded of us. And this joy will inspire us to abandon everything that holds us back from being all that God’s called us to be as a church so that we’re a church that loves one another.

THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON

1. What stood out to you in this week’s sermon? What were your biggest takeaways?

Read: 1 John 1:1-4

2. Why is knowing your purpose and reason for existing important? How does this help with distractions?
3. How does being Jesus-centered change the way we love one another? What does this kind of life look like?

Read: 1 John 1:1a, 2b, John 1:1-3, John 1:15-18, Genesis 1:1

4. How does believing Jesus was from the beginning unite us? When was the beginning of all beginnings?
5. Why was the Nicene Creed written? What do the Jehovah’s Witnesses believe about Jesus?

Read: 1 John 1:1-3a, John 1:14

6. What descriptives does John give to show us and others Jesus became a man? What does the word manifest mean? Why is it important?
7. Why were the witnesses to Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection so valuable? Why do some people choose to ignore the truth of Jesus becoming man?

Read: 1 John 1:1-2, John 13:34-35

8. How does believing Jesus is God unite us? Why is this a central part of our faith?
9. Why is Jesus the only way we will find unity as a congregation? What two things will happen if we do this?

NOTES

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

1. What has God shown you as you studied his word this week?
2. Why is there such value in reading and understanding the scriptures we looked at this week?
3. What points in the message encouraged you and gave you hope?
4. How will you personally apply what you learned from the sermon to your life?
5. How is your living proving or disproving what you say you believe?

DEEPER

Pray: We would get an opportunity to share the good news of the Gospel with someone this week and the joy that is found in Jesus with someone this week.

Read: 1 John 1:1-4, John 1:1-3, John 1:15-18, Genesis 1:1, John 1:14, John 13:34-35. Take time to reflect on these passages and write down your thoughts. Visit gatewayepc.org/news to read and review the sermon manuscript.

Write: Take time to write down your thoughts and insights from the sermon this week. Keeping a journal is just one more tool that you can use to track what God is showing you in your walk with him.

Sing: Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

Memorize: As a Life Group, pick a few verses from the sermon and memorize them this week. (Check out the read section for options)

Love: Share this message of hope with someone you love.

Sermon Discussion Guide

4/23/23