

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1: 14



Have you ever been in a situation that was new and different and maybe even uncomfortable? Sometimes we are willing to experience something hard because there is gain on the other side for ourselves or someone we love! This summer my family took a trip to the beach, and we experienced something new, different and for sure uncomfortable. About an hour outside of our destination our car broke down. It was beyond immediate repair. To make a long story short, despite not having a car and being in such a small town that we couldn't rent one or have a company take us, we were determined to make it to the beach. We spent hours trying to get the car fixed. followed by more hours trying to get a ride there. The sun was hot, our tummies were hungry, and we were all frustrated and tired. After a while, my husband came up with a genius idea to rent a moving van and drive the rest of the way there! We endured hot, uncomfortable and less than ideal circumstances because we wanted our kids to enjoy a week at the beach.

Let's look together at a place in scripture where Jesus came to the world – even though it was a world of darkness – so that we, his children, could experience eternal life with him. John chapter one starts out with several parallels to creation by first stating, "In the beginning was the Word." The Word was already there in the beginning. This "Word" is not a literal word but a man. The Word who was also God took on humanity. The holy son of God took on human form and lived on earth. Talk about different and for sure uncomfortable!

We are told that John came to bear witness to the light. Jesus was the light, life and truth. Scripture describes Jesus as the true light that gives life to everyone. This light shows the very presence of God. So, do you find yourself asking why? Why would a holy God come to a world of darkness that did not know or receive Him? This question is answered for us in verse 12 – "But to all who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." He did it for you and me. We are saved through Christ alone!

One way God continues to come near to us as believers is through His Holy Spirit. There are many ways the Holy Spirit works in our lives as Christians. The Holy Spirit reveals God's words to us, convicts us of sin, guides us to truth, and helps make us more like Christ. We as followers of Christ are called to be light to those around us. Are you willing to put yourself in a situation that might be new, different and maybe even uncomfortable so that someone in your life might see your light and become a child of God?

Thank you, Father, for giving us your son. Thank you for the word that became flesh and dwelt among us. Thank you for giving us the right to become children of God. Please fill us with your spirit today so that we might be a light in this dark world. Amen.

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24**



You are invited to join us inperson for our Sunday worship or watch live at espe.net/live.

9:30AM

**Livestream at 9:30AM**