

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **January 22, 2017** sermon, "From the Beginning." Please read the sermon passage (1 John 1:1-4) together out loud. Today's sermon is meant to give us an overview of John's life and help us gain further traction into what we will learn from him when we study 1 John.

Sermon Outline:

AS WE FOCUS ON JESUS CHRIST, NOTE . . .

1. **What has been established historically. (1-2)**
 - A. As false doctrines encroached on the church, John corrected them by reviewing and teaching the fundamentals about Jesus Christ.
 - B. Keep Jesus as your "stay-point," or anchor, in an ever-changing world.
 - C. Note all the ways John entered in to relationship and experience with Jesus:
 - i. We have heard, seen and touched Jesus.
 - ii. We can examine and experience Jesus.
 - D. Jesus "dressed himself in street clothes," becoming a hostage with us in order to save all who trust him.
2. **What should be experienced relationally (3-4)**
 - A. Fellowship. With one another and with Christ Jesus.
 - i. Fellowship involves sharing something. We share life together.
 - ii. It also involves sharing in something. We share Christ together.
 - iii. To feel connected, you must remain in circulation with believers.
 - B. Joy. Fellowship completes your joy.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: In what ways have you personally experienced Jesus Christ? What have you heard from him? What have you seen him do? How have you "touched" him? Why is it so crucial to remind yourself often of your experiences with Jesus?
2. Based on #1, above: As we experience shifting and movement in the culture around us, how is Christ your "stay point"? Are you unmoved and immovable?
3. Based on #2, above: Christ gives the believer all that is needed for fellowship. What is needed on each believer's part is the willingness to stay in circulation with other believers. Give yourself a grade with regard to being in circulation with other believers. Are you in circulation with those younger than you? Older? Are you in circulation with those newer to the church? And long-timers? Those more mature than you? And less? How can you improve?
4. Based on #3, above: Unity (Philippians 2) and loving fellowship with Jesus Christ and other believers "completes" our joy. The responsibility for attaining this completeness is placed upon each believer, including you. Without complaining about systems or culture or the age in which we live, how can you more faithfully follow this biblical directive of joy-producing fellowship?