

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read John 1:1-14 & Hebrews 2:14-18. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you hear God say to you as you read it a few times to yourself? What do you find to be most important in the texts? Why?
2. How are these two texts also ideal to be read at Christmas & Easter? How are those two celebrations related to one another? How is one not possible without the other?
3. In what ways did Jesus share in our humanity? According to Heb 2:14, why was the Incarnation necessary? Why was it impossible for God to choose some other way to save us from sin, death & evil?
4. In what ways is death a problem for us? What does death "do" to humans besides bring their lives to an end? In what sense does Satan have the power of death? How did Jesus defeat Satan? How should verses 14-18 impact the consideration of death for the believer?
5. How is Jesus compared to us in 2:17? Where else have you read that before? What reason is given in 2:17-18 why this had to be done? What is accomplished as Jesus is & experiences human life as we do? How does Jesus help you when you are tempted?
6. What was John's purpose? What was he trying to accomplish in writing this Gospel? (see Jn 20:30-31) Why is that important? How is that foreshadowed here in John 1?
7. What does Jn 1:1-2 tell us about the nature of Jesus? What about vs 14? Why is that important? What does vs 3 attribute to Jesus? Why does John link Creation & Redemption immediately here in his gospel? Why does that matter?
8. What role was John the Baptizer meant to play in Jesus' life? How did his ministry prepare the way for Jesus?
9. How is life in Christ, "light for everyone," (vss 4 & 9) yet some still reject him? Why did the Jews then, and many people today, continue to reject Jesus & his offer of life with the Father?
10. How are those who are turned by the Spirit to trust, believe, & receive Jesus Christ changed & different from those who don't? How is vs 13 possible? How is this unique to Christianity? What special significance does being called a child of God have?
11. What is significant to you that God has chosen to become human so that you could be made God's very own?

Living Water Fellowship

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

24th October 2021

COME TO JESUS

SONG: *Holy Spirit (you are welcome here)* (Francesca Battistelli) CCLI 384660
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zEiiZl2DKk>

WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning the Word already existed.
The Word was with God, & the Word was God.
²He existed in the beginning with God.
³God created everything through him, & nothing was created except through him.
⁴The Word gave life to everything that was created, & his life brought light to everyone.
⁵The light shines in the darkness, & the darkness can never extinguish it.
⁶God sent a man, John the Baptist, ⁷to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. ⁸John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. ⁹The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
¹⁰He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹He came to his own people, & even they rejected him. ¹²But to all who believed him & received him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. ¹⁴So the Word became human & made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love & faithfulness. We have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one & only Son.

FAITH CHAT: (with Phil Lieschke)

What does this mean to me?

SONG: *What a Beautiful Name* (HillSong) CCLI 384660
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUBBIddm_rM

BIBLE READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh & blood—the Son also became flesh & blood. For only as a human being could he die, & only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. ¹⁵Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.

¹⁶ We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers & sisters, so that he could be our merciful & faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Since he himself has gone through suffering & testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.

THE MESSAGE: ANCIENT CREED – LIVING FAITH: I BELIEVE IN GOD WHO IS HUMAN

PRAYERS:

Individuals joining us on-line are encouraged to pray for one another in their households & to include prayers for the wider Living Water family, the Wagga Wagga community, our nation and the world's leaders.

Individual households may also choose to celebrate Holy Communion after the online service concludes by using the included form of the Words of Institution.

The Communion:

Since we have been raised with Christ Jesus, let us set our minds on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth. Let's pray together...

Gracious God, in our wanderings & selfish desiring we often forsake fellowship with our families, our friends, & our neighbors; we neglect our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures over truth, justice, & righteousness. In a world of plenty, we hoard our earthly blessings while others lack. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. Amen.

Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

**O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive,
so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help.** (Psalm 86:5)

**"The Lord our God is merciful & forgiving,
even though we have rebelled against him."** (Daniel 9:9)
**"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake,
and remembers your sins no more ... "Amen.** (Isaiah 43:25)

Hear the good news: "He has delivered us from the power of darkness & brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood; the forgiveness of sins." (Col. 1:13-14) Amen

Worship Video during Communion: Grace (CityAlight) CCLI 384660

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCr6Vvj3nRo>

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

T (Name), child of God, Jesus became human
so you can become him! Amen.

Announcements

SONG:

Be Unto Your Name CCLI 384660

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8P7HW0lpvLU>

Show His Love