

December 4th, 2016 John 1:6-8

**When You See It**

1. What are we talking about?
2. The Christ follower is sent to talk about Jesus.

*There was a man sent from God whose name was John.*

**John 1:6**

1. Your message has a mission- to encourage belief.

*He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.* **John 1:7**

1. We must use this season to point to the true

life-giver!

*He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.* **John 1:8**

September 18, Philippians 4:6-7

2016 Mark 4:35-41

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord may I know your peace*

*So I can be hope*

*And share your light in the darkness.*

*Amen.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

What dominates your discussion around Christmas time? Why?

What is your idea of the role of a Christ-follower?

Where do you miss the message of Christmas? The giving? The receiving?

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Isaiah 9:2-5**
* **Tuesday 1 John 1:1-4**
* **Wednesday Micah 5:2-5**
* **Thursday Psalm 3:2-6**
* **Friday Matthew 5:16**
* **Saturday 1 Peter 3:15**

*The word of God is living and active sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**Hebrews 4:12**

December 11th, 2016 John 1:8-12

**True Light**

1. We have lost sight of true light.

*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.* **John 1:9**

1. Reasons we don’t recognize God…

*He was in the world and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.* **John 1:10**

1. God decides the terms of relationship.

*Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.* **John 1:12**

1. We have responsibilities as children born of God.

*Children not born of natural descent, nor of human decision or of a husband’s will, but born of God.* **John 1:8**

September 18, Philippians 4:6-7

2016 Mark 4:35-41

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord may I know your peace*

*So I can be hope*

*And share your light in the darkness.*

*Amen.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

What is light for you? What gives you life?

When have you missed God?

What are some actions God is calling you to take this very day?

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Psalm 119:105**
* **Tuesday Matthew 4:16**
* **Wednesday Matthew 5:16**
* **Thursday John 1:5**
* **Friday John 8:12**
* **Saturday 1 John 1:5-9**

*The word of God is living and active sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**Hebrews 4:12**

December 18th, 2016 John 1:14-17

**New Perspective**

1. Whose perspective is most important?

*The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.* **John 1:14**

1. The eternal perspective collides with the temporary.

*This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’* **John 1:15**

1. God came to give more of what he had already given, yet different.

*Out of his fullness we have received grace in place of grace already given.* **John 1:16**

1. God’s perspective changed from ruler to friend.

*For the law was given through Moses: grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.* **John 1:17**

September 18, Philippians 4:6-7

2016 Mark 4:35-41

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord may I know your peace*

*So I can be hope*

*And share your light in the darkness.*

*Amen.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

If Jesus were to move in next door, how would you receive him?

How do you view those who struggle, with pity or empathy? (Are you sorry for them, or do you share their sorrow?)

How will you listen differently to the struggles of other people?

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday 1 John 1:1-2**
* **Tuesday 1 John 4:2**
* **Wednesday Luke 1:35**
* **Thursday Isaiah 9:6**
* **Friday Matthew 1:18**
* **Saturday John 14:9**

*The word of God is living and active sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**Hebrews 4:12**

December 23rd, 2016 John 1:18

**See God**

1. The best Christmas begins with faith in God.

*No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son…* **John 1:18**

1. It has to go beyond belief and into a relationship.

*…who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father…* **John 1:18**

1. The birth of Jesus was God’s move to be known.

*…has made him known.* **John 1:18**

September 18, Philippians 4:6-7

2016 Mark 4:35-41

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord may I know your peace*

*So I can be hope*

*And share your light in the darkness.*

*Amen.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

Why does faith in God matter at Christmas?

How would you describe your relationship with God?

How have you known Jesus? What can you do to get to know Jesus better?

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Philippians 4:6-7**
* **Tuesday 1 Peter 5:6-7**
* **Wednesday Psalm 34:17-19**
* **Thursday Isaiah 40:31**
* **Friday Deuteronomy 31:6**
* **Saturday Romans 8:31-32**

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**Hebrews 4:12**