

April 28, 2019

Seen, Heard, Touched, Witnessed

1 John 1:1-4

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

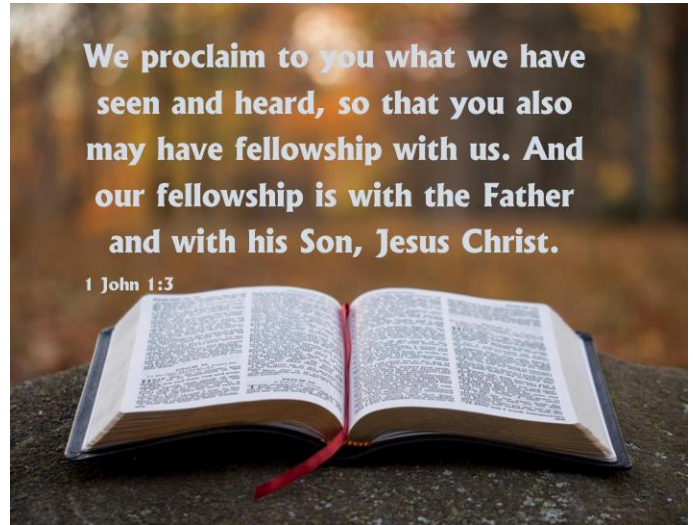
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we will start a new series on 1 John. 1 John is written by the apostle John late in his life. He has faithfully followed after Christ through all the trials that it has brought and now wants to convey the truth of what he has seen and what has been revealed to him by God. In this first section John makes it clear how he was given the knowledge of God. He was a witness to Jesus Christ. He was one of Jesus' closest disciples. He saw and touched and heard Jesus throughout His ministry on earth. He witnessed the crucifixion and more importantly he witnessed the resurrected Lord. Now John has put into words the most important parts of his interactions with Christ. He has fellowship with the Son and with the Father and he wants to share that fellowship with you. Join us this Sunday as we look at the eyewitness account of John and fellowship offered through Christ.

1 John 1:1-4 (NIV)

The Incarnation of the Word of Life

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the

Word of life. ²The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. How does John know about the Word of Life?

9. Who and what appeared to John?

10. Why does John proclaim what he has seen and heard?

11. What makes John's testimony believable?

12. What fellowship is offered to us?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. How can we know today that this testimony is true?

14. How can we have fellowship with the Father?

15. John talks about his joy being completed through sharing the fellowship he has with God. How can we find joy in sharing Christ? What does this look like for you? Have you experienced joy from sharing our fellowship with Christ? Is there joy to gain that is described in this passage beyond sharing the Gospel?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes