

“Let Me Introduce You to Jesus!”

John 1-2

How do you introduce the single most important person in the history of the world? You want people to recognize His unrivaled greatness, but at the same time be drawn to His humility and approachableness. This was John’s task. His opening introduction in John 1-2 is amazing.

“Guess who’s coming to dinner?!” – God dwells among us (1.1-18)

The Word Spreads: God and Man bear witness to Jesus (1.19-51)

Jesus begins to reveal Himself: Some doubt, others believe (2.1-25)

Who is this man?

- He is THE WORD! *Communicator, explainer, revealer*
- He is THE CREATOR! *The author, architect, designer*
- He is THE LIGHT! *Illuminator, revealer, enlightener*
- He is THE LAMB! *Sacrifice, sin-bearer, substitute*
- He is MESSIAH! *Promised One, Savior, King*
- He is HERE! *“He was in the world...”*

Jesus

the name above all names

1. Imagine that Jesus is coming to your town (He *is* returning, one day soon!), and you are given the task of introducing Him. Where would you start? You can talk about *who* He is, *what* He says and does, or *how* He is viewed by the world. That was John the Apostle’s task in writing his gospel. He started out with his Prologue, John 1.1-18. As you read it over, ask yourself: What does he emphasize about Jesus at the outset? How does he weave the deity and humanity of Jesus into a seamless narrative? What are the key results of Jesus being on earth with us?
2. How does the Jewish religious leaders’ encounter with John the Baptist (John 1.19-34) bring the significance of who Jesus is into sharper focus? Contrast John’s description of himself with his description and subsequent testimony about Jesus. What is the overall effect of John’s witness?
3. John had many incidents between Jesus and those who followed Him to choose from, but the ones he selected are recorded in John 1.35-51. How do these accounts develop the Person and reputation of Jesus? What do they reveal about Jesus’ approach to those who were seeking truth? What do they show about His heart?
4. John 2.1-11 records Jesus’ first miracle, turning water to wine at the wedding in Cana. Again, John has chosen this event from many for a reason. What does Jesus being at a wedding tell us about Jesus? What does His conversation with His mother show? Try to imagine what it was like for Jesus to be fully human, yet fully divine, at the same time!
5. In John 2.12-25, incidental travel details and a dramatic encounter with Jewish leaders at the temple in Jerusalem combine to set the stage for the narrative of Jesus’ ministry beginning in John 3. What is John highlighting about Jesus in these verses? Again, how is His deity and humanity intermingled in the account? How is the theme of *believing in Jesus* unveiled throughout John 1-2?