

4.16 Word Made Flesh

Scripture: John 1:1-18

December 17 & 21

Unit Verse: For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

The Point
God Brings Life

STORY SUMMARY: Word Made Flesh

The final lesson of this unit tells the story of God's presence physically bringing life to the world. We have witnessed God's presence active in the fiery furnace, the valley of dry bones, and Isaiah's promise of the coming Messiah. Today that promise is fulfilled here on earth. In the beginning the Gospel of John, we see a different version of the Christmas story. This version brings God coming to earth in the flesh into a larger scope even referring back to the creation account in Genesis. Far from a humble baby in a manger, in telling we see Jesus as one with God, connected from the very beginning of time. In Jesus, God not only comes into the world but has always been in relationship with the world.

THE POINT: In the Word, God becomes human and lives among us, bringing life.

The Gospel of John begins with a poetic hymn that sets the stage for the story of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. As the divine Word, Jesus is intimately connected with God and active in the creation of the world. Light, life and salvation for humanity are the result of this presence.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS: New Testament Divisions

Like the Old Testament, the books of the New Testament can be divided into sections based on their genre or type. The NT contains 27 books that can be grouped into four categories. The first group is the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. After John is the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, chronicling the early history of the church. Next are the Epistles, or letters. This section includes the books from Romans through Jude and contains letters from church leaders to the young churches. Finally, the Book of Revelation contains apocalyptic writing revealing God's ultimate triumph over evil.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: Fellowship

Christmas is a wonderful time to focus on the spiritual practice of fellowship. Christians around the world come together in churches to celebrate the birth of Christ. Families join to share a meal and enjoy time together. People care for friends and strangers, sharing the joy of this season. This is a time to learn habits of fellowship and work to carry them throughout the year.

(S&T)

Hope Youth Volunteers

Thank you as you have journeyed with our youth through the Old Testament. It is wonderful for our youth to see how All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God^l may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17) We started with Genesis and in the beginning and now we are starting in

John with in the beginning was the Word and word was with God and the Word was God. (John 1:1) I always love the beginning of the year. It's a fresh start and a chance to begin again. So as we enter this new year and say goodbye to the old we have the promise of new life in Christ Jesus. We pray you have a wonderful break and we can't wait to see you in the new year!

Blessings
The Youth Team