

FOOD TIME: (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

MEETING TIME: (45 minutes)

Welcome back to another semester of connect groups! We are going to start our study in the gospel of John, and it is only fitting that we look at the first chapter of it as we start this next round of groups out. This opening chapter is powerful because it solidifies that Jesus was, is, and will be our Lord and Savior forever. We see that His power was at the beginning, and everything will be made through Him. We also see in this first chapter what being a good witness should look like and how we can apply that to our lives each and every day. John knew that it was not about him, but it was about Christ, and that he was to bear witness to the power that Christ has. As we get into discussion this week, think about the Light that Christ has been for you, and think about how we can be good witnesses to the work that God does in us on a daily basis.

READ John 1:1-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. **4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. **6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** This man came for a witness, to bear the witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. **8** He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. **9** That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. **11** He came into His own, and His own did not receive Him. **12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: **13** who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

FACILITATE Discussion Questions

1. How has Christ been a light in your life?
2. What is the importance of the Light shining in the darkness?
3. Why would it be important that Christ was in the world and dwelt among us?
4. In what ways can we be more like John and be a constant witness to the Light of Christ?
5. Where can there be challenges in being a witness to Christ?

PRAY- Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.

APPLICATION- Christ is our firm foundation, the rock on which we stand. As we go out this week, take this chapter as one that really does provide the hope of who Christ is in our lives. He is the Light; He came down to live amongst us as an example and a hope that we can get through anything. As an application this week, take some time to think about how Christ has been a Light in your life? How has He impacted you on a daily basis? Then as you think about that impact, think about how you can show others the Light of Christ as a living, breathing testimony. We know that John lived a life that made it so that he did not want any of the credit, but it was all for the Lord. If you have gone through this discussion, and you feel the Lord calling you to do something more, don't hesitate to listen. Do it not for yourself but do it so that others can feel the grace and truth that God gives us on a daily basis.