

The Word Became Flesh – Pastor Mike

Bible Text(s) Used

John 1:1–14ⁱ; Hebrews 1:1–3ⁱⁱ

1. Jesus Is God Made Known to Us

Pastor Mike reminded us that greatness can stand right in front of us and still be missed, using the illustration of violinist Joshua Bellⁱⁱⁱ playing unnoticed in a busy subway. In the same way, Jesus entered the world He created and many failed to recognize Him. John tells us that the eternal Word, the true expression of God, “became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is not simply a religious figure or inspirational teacher; He is God’s full revelation of Himself. To know God is to know Jesus, and without Him, any idea of God remains distant and incomplete.

Reflection Question: When have I been so distracted, busy, or spiritually numb that I may have “walked past” the presence and work of Jesus in my life?

2. Jesus Forces a Decision About Who He Truly Is

Jesus does not allow us to treat Him as merely a prophet, moral example, or historical leader. His own claims leave only three options, as C.S. Lewis famously explained—He is either a liar, a lunatic, or truly Lord. Jesus declared unity with the Father, claimed divine authority, and promised to judge the world. If He is who He says He is, then the only faithful response

is surrender, worship, and trust. Christianity is not a religion built on ideas; it is a response to a living Savior who calls us to follow Him fully.

Reflection Question: If Jesus truly is who He says He is — Lord, God in the flesh, Savior, and Judge — what parts of my life have I fully surrendered to Him... and what parts am I still holding back?

3. God Became Flesh So We Could Truly Know Him

John's Gospel reveals that Jesus "tabernacled" among us—He came near so we could see God's glory, compassion, and truth up close. Unlike religion, which tries to climb its way to God through effort, ritual, or good works, Christianity declares that God came down to us in love. Through Jesus we are invited into adoption, forgiveness, transformation, and a living relationship with God as Father. The heart of the message is not rules, ceremonies, or performances—it is Emmanuel, God with us, offering salvation and new life to all who receive Him.

Reflection Question: What would change in my daily walk if I truly embraced Jesus as Emmanuel — God with me, personally present, leading me, loving me, and calling me His own?

Closing Thought:

Christmas reminds us that the God of the universe came near—not simply to inspire us, but to redeem us and invite us into His family through Jesus Christ.

ⁱ 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 was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own,^[b] and his own people^[c] did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 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 have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son^[d] from the Father, full of grace and truth.

ii **1** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

iii



Joshua David Bell (born December 9, 1967) is an American violinist and conductor. He is the music director of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. Bell's instrument is the Gibson ex Huberman; a Stradivarius made in 1713 during what is known as Stradivari's "Golden Era". It is valued at \$4 million. On October 14, 2025, Bell was appointed as an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Charles III.