

Mosaic

Week 1: The Big Picture

Objective: To help us recognize that God has drawn near to us in Jesus and He offers to redeem and restore us.

ICEBREAKER

Think about a movie, book, or television series you came into somewhere in the middle. How difficult was it to understand what was happening without knowing the larger story? Did something that seemed unimportant at first become much more significant once you understood the whole picture?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Seeing the Whole Picture

The sermon compared the Bible to a mosaic. We may know individual stories—Creation, Noah, Moses, David, Daniel, Jesus—but not always understand how the pieces fit together.

“The Bible is one story—and Jesus is at the center of it all.”

- When you think about the Bible, do you tend to see one connected story or a collection of individual stories and teachings?
- How might seeing the Bible as one story change the way we read it?
- Why does it matter that Jesus isn't simply another “tile” in the mosaic, but the One who brings the entire picture into focus?

2. “In the Beginning Was the Word”

Read **John 1:1–4**.

John intentionally begins his Gospel with words that echo Genesis: **“In the beginning...”**

- What claims does John make about Jesus in these opening verses?
- Why is it significant that Jesus' story doesn't begin with His birth in Bethlehem?
- How does knowing that Jesus is the Creator change the way you understand His coming into the world?

3. Light in the Darkness

Read **John 1:5, 9–11**.

John describes Jesus as the Light entering a world of darkness. Yet the world He created did not recognize Him, and His own people did not receive Him.

- What does “darkness” represent in these verses?
- What are some ways sin distorts our ability to see God clearly?
- Where do you see evidence of that darkness in our world—or in your own life?
- What hope do you find in John's statement that **“the darkness has not overcome”** the Light?

4. The Word Became Flesh

Read **John 1:14**.

John makes an astonishing statement:

“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.”

The sermon described this as God “pitching His tent” among us.

- What does this tell us about God's desire to be known by us?
- How does this challenge the picture of God as distant, uninterested, or waiting for us to find our way to Him?
- What difference does it make to know that God entered our broken world rather than simply calling to us from a distance?

5. Grace AND Truth

John says Jesus came **“full of grace and truth.”**

The sermon described Jesus as:

“Not grace without truth that pretends our sin does not matter. Not truth without grace that exposes our sin and leaves us condemned.”

- Why do we sometimes find it easier to emphasize one of these over the other?
- What happens when we have truth without grace?
- What happens when we have grace without truth?
- What does Jesus show us about holding both together?



6. The God Who Made Me Came Near

The main idea of the sermon was:

THE GOD WHO MADE ME CAME NEAR TO RESTORE ME.

- Which part of that statement means the most to you right now: **God made me**, **God came near**, or **God wants to restore me**? Why?
- What does God want to restore us *to*?
- How does this statement help us understand the larger story Scripture is telling?

7. Receiving and Believing

Read **John 1:12–13**.

John doesn't simply say that people need to know *about* Jesus. He says:

“To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name...”

The sermon explained that believing is more than agreeing that Jesus exists. It means **entrusting ourselves to Him**.

- What's the difference between believing facts *about* Jesus and actually trusting Jesus?
- Why can it be easier to know about Jesus than to entrust parts of our lives to Him?
- Are there areas of your life where you find it especially difficult to trust Him?

8. Children of God

John says those who receive Jesus and believe in His name are given **“the right to become children of God.”**

- What does the phrase “children of God” tell us about the kind of restoration Jesus offers?
- Why is Christianity more than simply being forgiven for things we've done wrong?
- How should our identity as God's children affect the way we live?

FINAL THOUGHT

The Bible begins with a God who creates. But humanity rebels, sin enters the story, and God's good creation becomes fractured. The remarkable story of Scripture is that God does not abandon what He made. He comes looking for us. And ultimately, the Creator Himself enters His creation.

The Word became flesh.

- The Light entered the darkness.
- Grace and truth came near.
- And Jesus came not merely to tell us how to find our way back to God, but to restore the relationship with God for which we were created.
- That's the picture the pieces of Scripture are forming:

THE GOD WHO MADE ME CAME NEAR TO RESTORE ME.

THIS WEEK — SEE THE STORY

This week, spend some intentional time with **John 1:1–14**.

Don't simply read it for information. Read it slowly and ask God to help you see what John wants us to see about Jesus.

As you read, pay attention to four things:

Who is Jesus?

What does John tell you about His identity?

What has Jesus done?

Look for what John says about creation, light, incarnation, grace, and restoration.

How have I responded?

Have you simply learned about Jesus—or are you entrusting yourself to Him?

Where do I need restoration?

What part of your life needs the Light, grace, and truth of Jesus right now?

End your time each day with a simple prayer:

Jesus, help me see You more clearly, trust You more completely, and allow Your grace and truth to restore what sin has broken in me.

