

GOD MADE HIMSELF RECOGNISABLE

SMALL GROUP NOTES - 10/12/17

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SCRIPTURE

John 1: 14; Phil. 2: 5-9

SCRIPTURE CONTEXT

In verse 1-4 John paints a glorious picture of the eternal 'Word'. Though their interpretations of 'the Word' would have been different for both Jews and Greeks, the description of 'the Word' would have tapped into ideas they currently held. But the declaration that 'the Word became flesh' in verse 14 would have blown their minds and would definitely have been unexpected.

How could the eternal Word become a person? Yet the rest of the gospels and indeed the New Testament testify to both the full divinity of Jesus and the full humanity. He was and is fully God and fully man. One passage that vividly describes this is Philipians 2: 5-9. It is only when we grasp how high Jesus is that we can begin to appreciate how low He became for our sake.

QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. Think of examples in the gospels when we see the humanity of Jesus displayed.
2. Why is it important that Jesus became a man? What encouragement is there to be found in Christ's humanity?
3. John 1: 14 says that 'the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.' The Word dwelt here literally means 'pitched His tent.' What does that communicate to us about God's heart for the world?
4. Read Phil. 2:5-9. What is the example of Jesus that we are to follow?