

Sermon Notes 2/1/2026

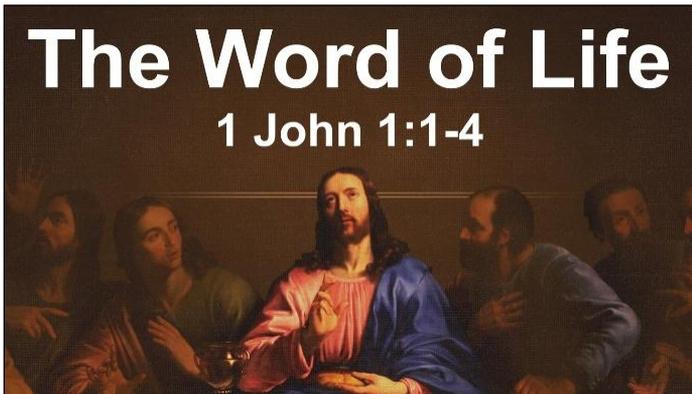
## The Word of Life

**How is Jesus relevant to our lives?  
¿Qué importancia tiene Jesús para nuestras vidas?**

1. Jesus lived a \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
Jesús vivió una vida \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 John 1:1 (1 Juan 1:1)  
John 1:14 (Juan 1:14)  
Hebrews 4:15-16 (Hebreos 4:15-16)

2. Jesus gives us \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
Jesús nos da la vida \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 John 1:2 (1 Juan 1:2)  
John 3:16 (Juan 3:16)  
Romans 6:23 (Romanos 6:23)  
1 John 5:13 (1 Juan 5:13)

3. Jesus gives us life with \_\_\_\_\_.  
Jesús nos da vida con \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 John 1:3-4 (1 Juan 1:3-4)  
John 14:6 (Juan 14:6)  
John 14:23 (Juan 14:23)  
Colossians 1:21-23 (Colosenses 1:21-23)



# Life Group Discussion Questions

**Week 1: January 19-26**

**Scripture: 1 John 1:1-4**

The book of First John was written to Christians who were having doubts about their salvation and their relationship with God. At that time there was a false religion known as Gnosticism developing and having a negative influence on the Christian community.

Gnosticism taught that everything spiritual was good and everything physical was bad. They believed in a good god who created everything in the spiritual realm and an evil god who created everything in the physical universe. They would often use these two different categories to justify their sinful lifestyles.

The word “gnostic” means knowing ones and they claimed that salvation came through their secret knowledge. If you wanted to be saved, you had to learn their secret knowledge from them. So, some of the Christians were beginning to doubt their salvation.

The Gnostics believed a lot of false ideas about Jesus, but the most detrimental doctrine of Gnosticism was the idea that Jesus Christ is not relevant for every area of life. Tragically, this idea is still very common among many Christians today.

## **Read 1 John 1:1-4**

1. Who is the “we” in this passage? Who is the author of this book? What do we know about him?

John uses 1st person plural pronouns to refer to the testimony of the Apostles. Later in the book he will use 1st person singular pronouns to refer to his own personal interaction with his readers.

2. Who is the “you” in this passage? Who did the author have in mind when he wrote this letter? What do we know about them?

3. What are some of the reasons John gives for writing this letter? (Read 1 John 1:4, 2:1, 2:26, and 5:13)

4. What was from the beginning? (1:1)

Morris Womack notes,

John begins his epistle with this great truth: That which was from the beginning. He then identifies what was from the beginning as the Word of life. It was also the “eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.” This phenomenal declaration has been identified with the beginning of all things. When one reads the fourth Gospel, it is easy to see the unity of John’s entire message about the Christ.

5. What contact did John have with the Word of life? (1:1)

Notice how John describes personal and physical experiences with Jesus to emphasize the validity of the apostolic witness of Jesus as “the Word of Life.”

6. How was eternal life manifested or revealed to John? (1:2)

7. What did John do with the message of eternal life? (1:2)

8. Why was John telling his readers about the Word of life? (1:3)

9. How could writing a letter to other Christians make John’s joy complete? (1:4; see also 2 John 4 and 3 John 4)

John Stott observes,

The idea of fullness of joy is not uncommon in the Johannine literature (cf. John 3:29; 15:11; 16:24; 17:13; 2 John 12), and it is significant that in each case there is some allusion to the subject of fellowship with God or with each other. Yet ‘complete joy’ is not possible in this world of sin, because perfect fellowship is not possible. So, verse 4 must be understood also to look beyond this life to the life of heaven. (Stott, 70)

10. Why do you think John emphasized so strongly his personal and physical encounter with Jesus?

11. What ideas have you heard about Jesus that contradict what the Bible says about Jesus?

12. Why is it important for us to know and believe that Jesus lived a real human life on earth?

13. What does it mean to have fellowship with God and other believers?

Most people in our culture today do not understand the biblical meaning of fellowship. We tend to value our individualism and independence more than our sense of community. Even when we are part of a community with shared values and interests, it tends to be shallow and temporary with a low level of commitment. However, the Christians in the early church were devoted to each other. Like the hands, feet, and other parts of a physical body, they saw themselves as intricately connected and dependent upon each other. Gary Burge writes,

Christian community is not some passing association of people who share common sympathies for a cause. Nor is it an academy where an intellectual consensus about God is discovered. It cannot be so superficial. Christian community is partnership in experience; it is the common living of people who have a shared experience of Jesus Christ. They talk about this experience, they urge each other to grow more deeply in it, and they discover that through it, they begin to build a life together unlike any shared life in the world. (Burge, 55)

14. In what ways can we enhance our fellowship with one another?

15. Who are some of the people who taught you the gospel or helped you to grow in your faith? What could you do to make their joy complete?

16. What is your personal testimony concerning the Word of Life? How have you seen, heard, touched, and experienced Jesus in your life? And what difference has it made in your life?

17. Who will you share your testimony with this week?

18. What specific steps will you take this week to deepen your fellowship with other believers?

**Sources cited:**

- Burge, Gary. *The Letters of John*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996.  
Stott, John. *The Letters of John*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.  
Womack, Morris. *1, 2, & 3 John*. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1998.