

Firm Foundation: Experiential Truth

1 John 1:1-4
October 5, 2025

Which came first, YOU or the birth certificate?

“Correct thinking provides a sense of certainty. Without it, we fear that faith is on life support at best, dead and buried at worst. And who wants a dead or dying faith?”
- The Sin of Certainty

“The first converts to Christianity did not believe Jesus rose from the dead because they read about it. There was nothing to read. They believed He rose from the dead because they saw it, or because an eye-witness told them about it.”
- Andy Stanley

- 1 John 1:1-4

Question #1: What is the purpose of this letter?

This letter speaks authoritatively about the truth of the incarnation!

- 1 John 1:1
- John 6:68

The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our faith!

Question #2: What's it matter?

It's one thing to hear . . .
It's one thing to believe . . .
It's a totally different level to *experience*!

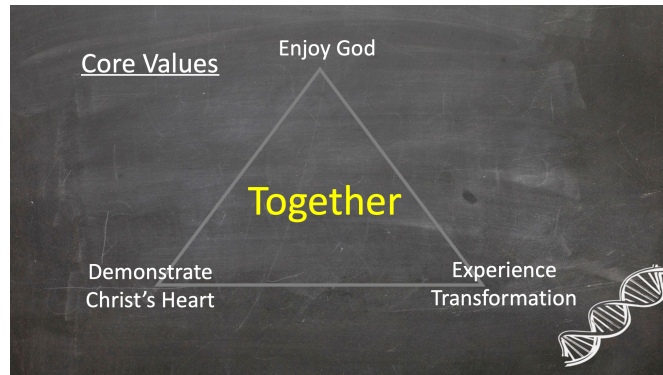
- 1 John 1:3

“The life of Christian faith is more than agreeing with a set of beliefs about Christ, morality, or how to read the Bible. It means being so intimately connected with Christ that His crucifixion is ours, His death our death, and His life our life — which is hardly something we can grasp with our minds. It has to be experienced.

Question #3: What's the invitation?

- 1 John 1:4

- 3 John 1:4



“Though we did not see it with our eyes, we see it with our hearts: the tomb is empty. It still is! It always will be! The tomb is empty forever and ever, amen. The well continues to overflow. It overflows eternal. Forever and ever, amen.”

- Josh Porter

Challenge FOR Every Alaskan:

- 1. Ask yourself: Have I *heard* The News, or have I *experienced* The News?**