

**Week One - Day One  
An Introduction**

As I mentioned in the introduction regarding the timeliness of 1 John, I'm also a student. The secular world hasn't been easy to walk through with all it offers. I'm learning how to put my insecurities aside and to be more authentic. The liberation I have experienced is comparable to wearing no makeup and lounging around in sweats. I can be free to be me and know I'm loved no matter how I look and regardless of my imperfections. Hallelujah! That is worth a shout as we begin. My prayer is that as you come along and study 1 and 2 John with me, you too will feel liberated.

After I graduated from high school, I furthered my education by completing an associate of arts degree to become a legal secretary. Upon completion of college, I worked for attorneys in private practices and those who served the state as public prosecutors. I have sat in on court procedures, trials, and rulings. One feature all legal proceedings have in common is that they begin with an opening statement.

Open your Bible and read 1 John 1:1–4.

First, John's introduction is an eyewitness account of Jesus' life as the Son of God. How do you avoid the testified facts that Jesus was visible, that John, and his fellow companions could touch Him? In a court case, that is what we would call "substantial evidence."

John's book takes us back to the beginning of creation to prove that his witness of Christ is trustworthy. One thing I appreciate about John is his consistency in writing. Please read John 1:1–18.

Who was with God in the beginning (v. 2)? \_\_\_\_\_

In John 1:14, we notice that John implied the incarnation. That our Lord would take on flesh and humanity to dwell among us is overwhelming. If you've ever felt ordinary, I hope this verse will change your mind. God isn't ordinary, and neither are you.

As the *Catholic Bible Dictionary* explains, the second person of the Trinity took on every bit of humanity, flesh, and soul; yet He remained divine.<sup>1</sup> The Son of God is truly God and truly man.

When you read the gospel of John or 1 John, you could say that John definitely knew how to give a bold and exciting introduction. And why not? After all, he had hung out with the living God in the flesh.

Read Colossians 1:15 and Hebrews 1:3.

Who is the Word and Firstborn of God? \_\_\_\_\_. What was His purpose for coming into the world? \_\_\_\_\_

The “Word” in Greek is the Logos and appears 330 times in the New Testament.<sup>2</sup>

The Word is Jesus, who came in the flesh by the spoken words of God on the day the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. By the power of the Holy Spirit, Mary’s yes to God’s plan, the Word who remained God became a man. Now, that is a full-course meal to chew on!

Please read Luke 1:26–38.

Earlier, I mentioned that John’s introduction reminded me of the opening statement in a court proceeding. In an opening statement, each attorney presents a formal introduction of his or her client and the case he or she is defending. After the opening statement, the judge, jury, and all present come to know the client and his or her case more fully.

John’s presentation in both Scripture readings of John and 1 John begin with “the Word”: Because Scripture is “God breathed,” one could say God made a formal debut as God the Son to all humankind. How is that for an exciting introduction, an official presentation of the Word? I enjoy an interesting beginning to a story; don’t you?

Beloved, you have a story that begins with an introduction. On the day you were born, you also had a formal introduction to this world. Have you ever wondered about the significance of your being born and coming into the world? I know I have. You are a child of God, born and presented to all in the place where you are apt to rise up and show God’s glory. God has a specific purpose for you. Take time during this week’s session to pray, read Scripture, and frequent the sacraments of the church. God wants to lavish His love on you. He looks to converse with you. I don’t know about you, but to me, His willingness and desire to have a relationship with us are humbling.

There will come a time when God will ask you to go deeper with Him. I encourage you to take the plunge today, and let God love you. If you’re ready and willing to go deeper with God, go ahead and sign below your commitment to learn and study more about our Lord.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a daughter of God. I will let God love me, and I’m willing to go deeper with Him.

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Signature

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Date

You are beautiful. God loves you more than you could ever imagine. You did an excellent job on completing your first day of work!