

A Year with Jesus
Week 3: Word

Scripture: John 1:1-18; 1 John 1:1-5; Revelation 19:11-16.

WORD, THE — a theological phrase that expresses the absolute, eternal, and ultimate being of Jesus Christ (John 1:1–14; 1 John 1:1; Rev. 19:13). The Old Testament spoke of the word of God as the divine agent in the creation of the universe: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made” (Ps. 33:6). In the New Testament, the Gospel of John declared, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). Through the incarnation of Christ, God has come to dwell in our midst. Through the life and ministry of Jesus, a unique and final revelation of God has been given—one superior to the revelation given through the Law and the Prophets. In Christ, the Word of God, God’s plan and purpose for mankind is clearly revealed (2 Cor. 4:4; Heb. 1:1–3).¹

1. Read John 1:1-18. Who is the Word? How is “the Word” described in these verses?
2. What do you learn about the Word in these verses that is good news for you? What emotions do you feel from reflecting on this good news? Why?
3. If you have a study Bible, look in your notes that relate to these verses. What are some ways “God’s Word” is described in the Old Testament?
4. Read 1 John 1:1-5. How do these verses describe “the Word?” What key ideas are emphasized in this text?
5. How have you “seen and heard” (experienced) the Word of life?
6. As you come to understand that Jesus is the “Word of life,” what do you think your response should be from reading 1 John 1:1-5?
7. Read Revelation 19:11-16. Write down all the ways Jesus is described in these verses.

¹ Youngblood, R. F., Bruce, F. F., & Harrison, R. K., Thomas Nelson Publishers (Eds.). (1995). In *Nelson’s new illustrated Bible dictionary*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc.

8. What is the Rider's name, according to Revelation 19:13? What do you think John (the author of Revelation) is teaching us by telling us his name?

9. Compare the references to "the Word" that we find in Revelation with what we read in John's Gospel and first epistle. How are they similar? Different? What is being emphasized? What does John want us to know?

10. What thoughts and emotions do you experience as you reflect upon John's description of the Word, in Revelation?

11. Write a prayer below to communicate what you have learned about Jesus from this lesson. Spend some time adoring and thanking God for taking on our flesh and dwelling among us. Perhaps areas in which you need to repent come to mind. Or maybe you have questions to ask God. Take time to write all these down.

12. What are some key ideas and/or questions you have that came from spending time with these Scriptures and questions? Share them with your group.