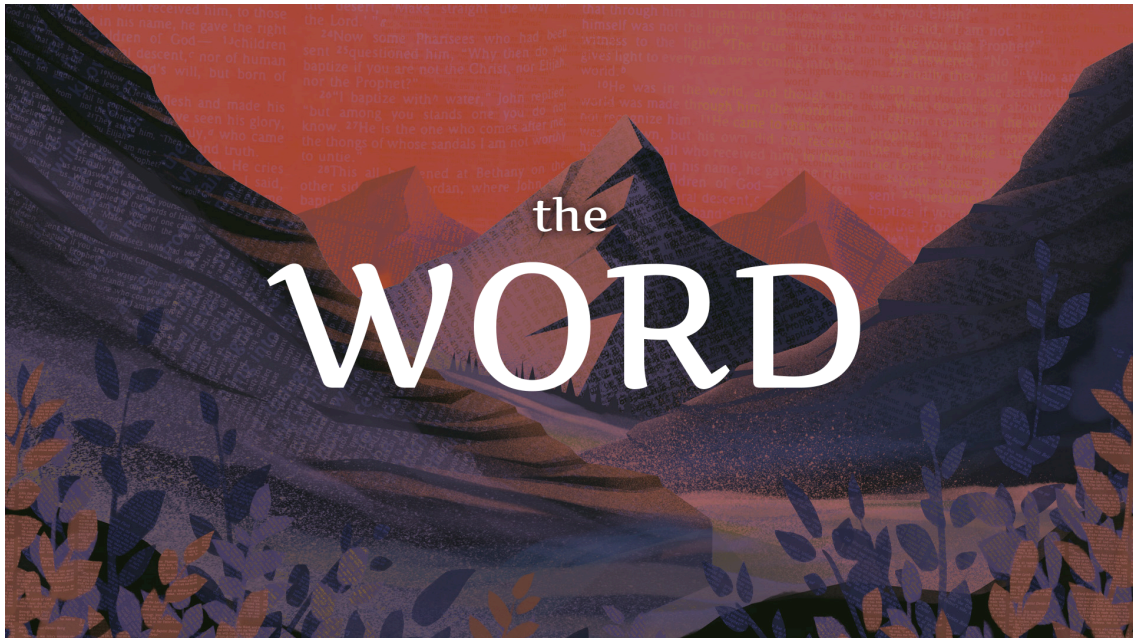


WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 2025

**5-Day Devotional
based on Sunday's message:**



THE WORD BECAME FLESH

John 1:1-18

Provided by



AKRON GRACE CHURCH
101 N. 7th Street, Akron PA
www.akrongrace.com

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John 1:1-18

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.'" From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

Day 1: The Eternal Word

Devotional

Have you ever wondered what God was doing before creation began? John opens his Gospel with a breathtaking revelation that takes us back to eternity past. Before the first star was formed, before time itself existed, Jesus already was. He wasn't created at Bethlehem. He entered our story there as a child, but his existence stretches back into the endless depths of eternity. This truth transforms how we understand Jesus. He's not just a great teacher or even a divine messenger. He is the eternal Word through whom all things were made. When you look at the mountains, the oceans, the intricate design of a flower, you're seeing the handiwork of Jesus himself. Every sunrise, every heartbeat, every breath you take exists because of him. What does this mean for your life today? It means you're not an accident. Your existence isn't random. The same divine power that spoke galaxies into existence knows your name, your struggles, your dreams. The Creator who formed the universe with his words cares deeply about the details of your daily life. When life feels chaotic or meaningless, remember this foundational truth: the eternal Word who existed before anything else was made is intimately involved in your story. Your life has purpose because it flows from his eternal plan.

Bible Verse

'In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.' - John 1:1-3

Reflection Question

How does knowing that Jesus existed before creation and personally made everything around you change the way you view your daily circumstances and challenges?

Quote

Jesus did not come into existence at Bethlehem when he was born. As a child, he physically entered the story there. Yes, that's true. And as we discussed a few weeks ago, before anything else was made, Jesus already was.

Prayer

Jesus, thank you that you are the eternal Word who existed before time began. Help me to remember that my life is not random but flows from your eternal purposes. When I feel lost or insignificant, remind me that the Creator of the universe knows and loves me personally. Amen.

Day 2: Life and Light

Devotional

What does it mean to truly live? In our world, we often measure life by achievements, possessions, or experiences. However, Jesus offers something far deeper. He doesn't just give biological existence, he reveals what life truly is meant to be. Think about light for a moment. When you flip a switch in a dark room, the light doesn't struggle against the darkness, it simply shines, and darkness has no choice but to flee. This is the kind of light Jesus brings to our lives. It's not fragile or temporary. It shines consistently, revealing truth about God and about ourselves. Many of us live in various forms of darkness like confusion about our purpose, fear about the future, shame from our past. We try different solutions, seeking meaning in relationships, careers, or achievements. However, Jesus offers something unique. He is the true light, the original source by which every human life finds its meaning. When Jesus enters your life, he doesn't just add something good to what already exists. He transforms your understanding of what it means to be alive. He illuminates God's love for you, reveals your true identity as his beloved child, and shows you the purpose for which you were created. This light is not one option among many competing sources of meaning. It is the true light that gives meaning to everything else.

Bible Verse

'The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it' - John 1:4-5

Reflection Question

In what areas of your life do you need Jesus' light to shine, revealing truth and bringing the abundant life he offers?

Quote

Jesus does not only Give life. He reveals what life truly is.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you are the light that shines in my darkness. Help me to stop settling for mere existence and embrace the abundant life you offer. Shine your light into the confused and dark places of my heart, revealing your truth and love. Amen.

Day 3: Becoming God's Children

Devotional

Imagine receiving an invitation to join the most loving, secure, and powerful family in existence. This isn't fantasy, it's the incredible reality Jesus offers to everyone who believes in him. When you receive Jesus, you don't just get forgiveness or a ticket to heaven. You become a child of God. Period. Full stop. This transformation isn't based on your performance, your background, or your worthiness. It's not about being good enough or trying harder. It's about receiving what Jesus freely offers. When you believe in him and accept him into your life, something miraculous happens. You're adopted into God's family with all the rights and privileges that come with being his child. Many people in Jesus' time missed this incredible gift because they thought they already knew who God was and what he wanted. They had false familiarity and wrong expectations. They were looking for a political messiah or a religious reformer, not the humble carpenter who claimed to be God himself. The same thing can happen to us. We might think we know what God is like based on our upbringing, our culture, or our assumptions. However, Jesus reveals that God is far more loving, gracious, and welcoming than we ever imagined. He's not waiting for you to clean up your life before you come to him. He's inviting you to come as you are and discover what it means to belong to him completely.

Bible Verse

'But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.' - John 1:12-13

Reflection Question

What false assumptions about God might be preventing you from fully embracing your identity as his beloved child?

Quote

To receive Jesus is to belong to God. Period. Full stop.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the incredible gift of becoming your child through faith in Jesus. Help me to let go of any false ideas about who you are and embrace the truth that I belong to you completely. Teach me to live in the security of your love. Amen.

Day 4: God With Us

Devotional

The most stunning truth in all of human history is that God became one of us. The eternal Word didn't remain safely distant in heaven, observing our struggles from afar. He stepped down into our world, taking on human flesh and making his home among us. This changes everything about how we understand God. He's not a distant deity who issues commands from on high. He's not disconnected from our daily struggles. Jesus took on our weakness, our limitations, our vulnerability. He experienced hunger, fatigue, and grief, not symbolically, but personally and completely. When you're going through a difficult time, remember that Jesus understands from personal experience. When you feel overwhelmed by life's challenges, know that he has walked in your shoes. When you struggle with temptation, remember that he faced it too. When you grieve, know that he has wept real tears. God is no longer dwelling near his people. He is dwelling with his people. Through Jesus, the Creator entered his own creation. This means that in your darkest moments, you're not alone. In your greatest joys, he celebrates with you. In your daily routines, he's present and involved. This is why Jesus doesn't merely tell us about God, He reveals God. When you want to know what God is really like, you look at Jesus. His compassion, his patience, his love, his justice, this is what God is like.

Bible Verse

'So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.' - John 1:14

Reflection Question

How does knowing that God personally experienced human life through Jesus change the way you approach him with your struggles and joys?

Quote

The eternal word that existed at creation did not remain distant, did not observe from above, did not simply speak again. He became flesh.

Prayer

Jesus, thank you for not remaining distant but becoming one of us. Help me to remember that you understand my struggles because you've experienced them yourself. Draw me closer to you, knowing that you are truly God with us. Amen.

Day 5: Abundant Grace

Devotional

Have you ever worried that you might exhaust God's patience or use up his grace? Here's a truth that will transform your relationship with him, Jesus doesn't give grace reluctantly or measure it out carefully. Grace flows from an abundance within him, and there's always more than enough. Think about the most generous person you know, like someone who gives freely and joyfully. Now multiply that generosity infinitely, and you begin to understand how Jesus relates to you. There is more grace than need. There is more mercy than failure. There is more life than loss. This abundance of grace doesn't make Jesus permissive or careless about sin. Instead, it reveals the depth of his love and the security of your relationship with him. Unlike the law that revealed God's standards but couldn't enable obedience, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. He doesn't simply call you to obedience. He provides what obedience requires in himself. From Christ's fullness, you receive one gracious blessing after another. This isn't about earning God's favor through good behavior. It's about receiving from his endless supply of love, forgiveness, strength, and hope. When you fail, there's grace. When you succeed, there's grace. When you're confused, there's grace. When you're confident, there's grace. How do you determine what God is really like? You look at Jesus. In him, you see a God whose grace never runs out, whose love never fails, and whose heart is always open to you.

Bible Verse

'From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ.' - John 1:16-17

Reflection Question

In what areas of your life do you need to stop trying to earn God's favor and instead receive his abundant grace?

Quote

In Jesus there is more grace than need. There is more mercy than failure. There is more life than loss.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you that your grace flows from abundance, not scarcity. Help me to stop trying to earn your love and instead rest in the truth that there is always more grace than I could ever need. Teach me to live from this security. Amen.