

**TITLE:        The Glory of Christmas – The Light of the World is Jesus!**

**TEXT:        John 1:1-14 (ESV)**

- I.     The Who of the Incarnation
  - A. The Majesty
    1. His Existence
    2. His Essence
  - B. The Message
- II.    The Why of the Incarnation
  - A.    The Nature of Life
  - B.    The Nature of Relationships
    1. Past Relationships
    2. Powerful Relationships
- III.   The Wonder of the Incarnation
  - A. The Wonder of an Abiding Presence
  - B. The Wonder of an Atoning Death

## ABF Discussion Exercises

**“Jesus is God’s final, authoritative, authentic,  
and clear message to His creation!”**

**Check In (Takeaway from last week):** When tempted to become discouraged, were you able to turn to a promise of God for encouragement? Please describe it.

### **1. How do you know God? How does God know you?**

What would you say is the best way for another person to truly know who you are?

What ways do we get to “know” God - not just “know about” God?  
Is there a difference? Explain your answer.

**Read: Mt 7:21-23** (also 1 Cor 8:2-3; 2 Tim 2:19; Gal 4:9)

What is the thing we must do if we are to enter the Kingdom of Heaven?  
What did these people place their confidence in?

John used the verb form "to believe" more than 60 times in the Gospel. He did not use it at all in the noun form. Faith or belief is not just knowledge. It is something that we exercise. Can a person not be a Christian if he or she has the right doctrine? Why or why not?

**Read: John 1:12-13** (also Gen 15:6; Gal 3:6; Rom 4:3; John 8:42, 56)  
What are the marks of receiving the Word?

### **2. How can you clearly communicate “the Word”?**

Name one or two people who most shaped what you believe about God.  
What did they say or do that influenced you so much?

**Read John 1:14 & 2 Cor 4:6-7.**

What was it about Jesus that was “glorious”?

The Jews had been waiting for hundreds of years for the Messiah to come.  
Why did they not recognize Jesus?

Why do you think we struggle to clearly communicate “the Word” to others?

Does what you believe about God shape how you behave, make choices?  
How much do you think God should influence what you do?

### **Takeaway**

**Take time each day to recognize how God has clearly communicated his grace to you. Write it down. Look for an opportunity to communicate God’s glory in your with another person in some ordinary circumstance.**