

▼ **Jesus - God's Word**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday April 5, 2026

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<http://www.LifeChurchBoston.org/>

▼ **Opening Material**

▼ **Welcome!**

- Praise the Lord!
- Welcome to another Life Church sermon!

▼ **Transition**

- Welcome to another Sunday at Life Church.
- The QR code (also available on our song sheets) links to our Visitor Landing Page.
- Use it to access our notes, share your contact information, and access our giving page.
- Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!
- Email: Questions@LifeChurchBoston.ORG
- We are beginning John 1.
- We will have Q&A / Discussion after the message, followed by Sunday Connection.

▼ **Thoughts**

▼ **Acts 2:42-43 - The 4 Devotions:**

- The apostles' teaching
- fellowship
- the breaking of bread
- prayer
- **Cultural Rivers**

▼ **Overview**

▼ **In today's message we will do the following:**

- ▼ Why are we here?
 - Acts 2:36-39
 - Acts 17:29-31
- Review passage - John 1:1-18
- Explore what Jesus is teaching us.

- Transition to Q&A / Discussion and Sunday Connection

▼ Opening Material

▼ Why are we here?

- Acts 2:29-39 - Spoken to Jews

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.” ’

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.**”

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off —for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

- Acts 17:29-31 - Spoken to Gentiles

“Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. **For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.**”

▼ Welcome to John!

▼ Video

- [Bible Project: John 1-12](#) - (00:08:46)
- John 20:30-31

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

▼ Embrace Jesus’ Mission

▼ Jesus’ mission, (expressed in the synoptic gospels) still applies.

- Matthew 4:17 – “Repent, for the Kingdom of God has come near!”
- Mark 1:14-15 – “The Kingdom of God has come near . . .”

- Luke 4:14-21 – “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me . . .”

▼ **Feed on the Life of Jesus**

- **Are you “worded up”?**
- **Eat his flesh; Drink his blood - John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17**
- **Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?**

▼ **What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?**

- The Gospel of John in April (4/1 – 4/21)
- The Gospel of Matthew in May (5/1 – 5/28)
- The Gospel of Mark in June (6/1 – 6/16)
- The Gospel of Luke in July (7/1 – 7/24)

▼ **For April this means:**

- Read John 4 on April 4 (yesterday).
- Read John 5 on April 5 (today).
- Read John 6 on April 6 (tomorrow).
- etc.
- **As you read, write down any questions you have.**

▼ **Ask yourself the following questions:**

- What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
- What would I like to better understand about this chapter?
- What did I find challenging about this chapter?
- What did I learn as I tried to apply this chapter to my life?
- Would an outsider who read this chapter recognize that I was trying to apply it to my life?

▼ **Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:**

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?
- Did you grow up apart from church wondering what all the fuss was about?

- Either way, don't be afraid to start from scratch or start over from scratch with someone who can walk you through the Bible so that you can understand God's Kingdom.
- Read and listen to God's Word in community!

▼ **Video:**

- [Discipleship.ORG: Key Disciple Making Definitions for Church Leaders](#) - YouTube (00:05:26)

▼ **Genesis 1:1-5**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning —the first day.

▼ **Lessons**

- ?

▼ **John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

▼ **Video:**

- [Bible Project: What It Means for Jesus to Be the "Word of God"](#) - (00:06:41)

▼ **Parallel Passages**

- No Parallel Passage

▼ Narrative

- John evokes the creation account in Genesis 1.
- ▼ He establishes “the Word” as:
 - having existed from the beginning
 - existing in community with God
 - being God
- ▼ He establishes “the Word” as:
 - fully involved in creation
 - the source of life
 - the light of mankind
 - prevailing over darkness
- He introduces John the Baptizer as a witness to the light which will shortly be revealed to be Jesus.
- ▼ He establishes that Jesus:
 - was the author of creation
 - was not recognized by the world he created
 - was not recognized by the people he established (i.e. Israel)
 - authorizes all who believe in him to become children of God
- ▼ John is part of a community (“we”) that shares a common testimony.
 - Incarnation: The Word became flesh and “tabernacled among us”.
 - They have seen Jesus’ glory.
 - Jesus is God’s special Son.
 - Jesus is full of grace and truth.
 - They have all received grace through Jesus that surpasses what the Law provides.
 - Jesus has revealed the Father to them.

▼ Observations

- ▼ When was John written?
 - Mark 15:21 - Simon of Cyrene - “the father of Alexander and Rufus . . .”
 - John 5:2 - “There is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool . . .”
 - John 7:37-39 - “Up to that time the Spirit had not been given . . .”
- God works through witnesses (e.g. John the Baptizer).
- Jesus enables people to become children of God supernaturally.

- The Word tabernacled among us. Jesus is a temple of God's presence.
- ▼ Jesus is a source of grace:
 - Grace is much more than "God's riches at Christ's expense".
 - Grace is much more than "unmerited favor". Jesus grew in grace (Luke 2:52).
 - Grace is the empowering presence of God that enables us to be who he has called us to be and to do what he has called us to do.

▼ **Lessons**

- Jesus is more than just a "good teacher" - he is God in human form.
- Jesus enables us to become God's children.
- Jesus is full of grace and truth. If you want to be who God wants you to be and do what God wants you to do, you need to turn to Jesus.
- John testifies that, out of Jesus' fullness, he and his community have all received grace and truth. If we want this, we must learn, from his gospel, how they received it.
- ▼ What's your status?
 - Are you a fan in the bleachers or are you a team player on the field?
 - Do you insist only private moments with Jesus or are you willing to be vulnerable as a team player?
 - Do you only talk about how wonderful Jesus is and what he has done for you or are you willing to plan with others how to do what Jesus does?

► **Discussions, Q&A**



Jesus – God's Word

Sunday April 5, 2026



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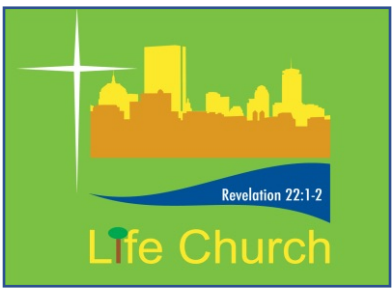
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Thoughts



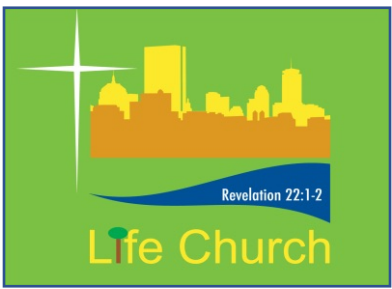
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Why are we here?

Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews

Acts 17:29-31 – Spoken to Gentiles



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (1 of 3)



“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (2 of 3)



For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand
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a footstool for your feet.” ’



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (3 of 3)



“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.**”

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.**”



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Bible Project: John 1-12





John 20:30-31 – John's Purpose

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



Embrace Jesus' Mission:



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Feed on the Life of Jesus (1 of 4)



Are you “worded up”?

Eat his flesh; Drink his blood – John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17

Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?

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Feed on the Life of Jesus (3 of 4)

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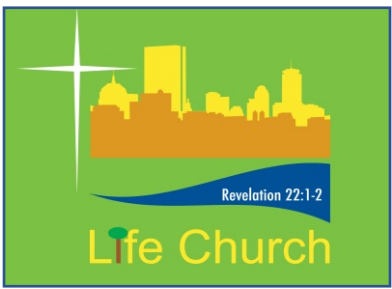
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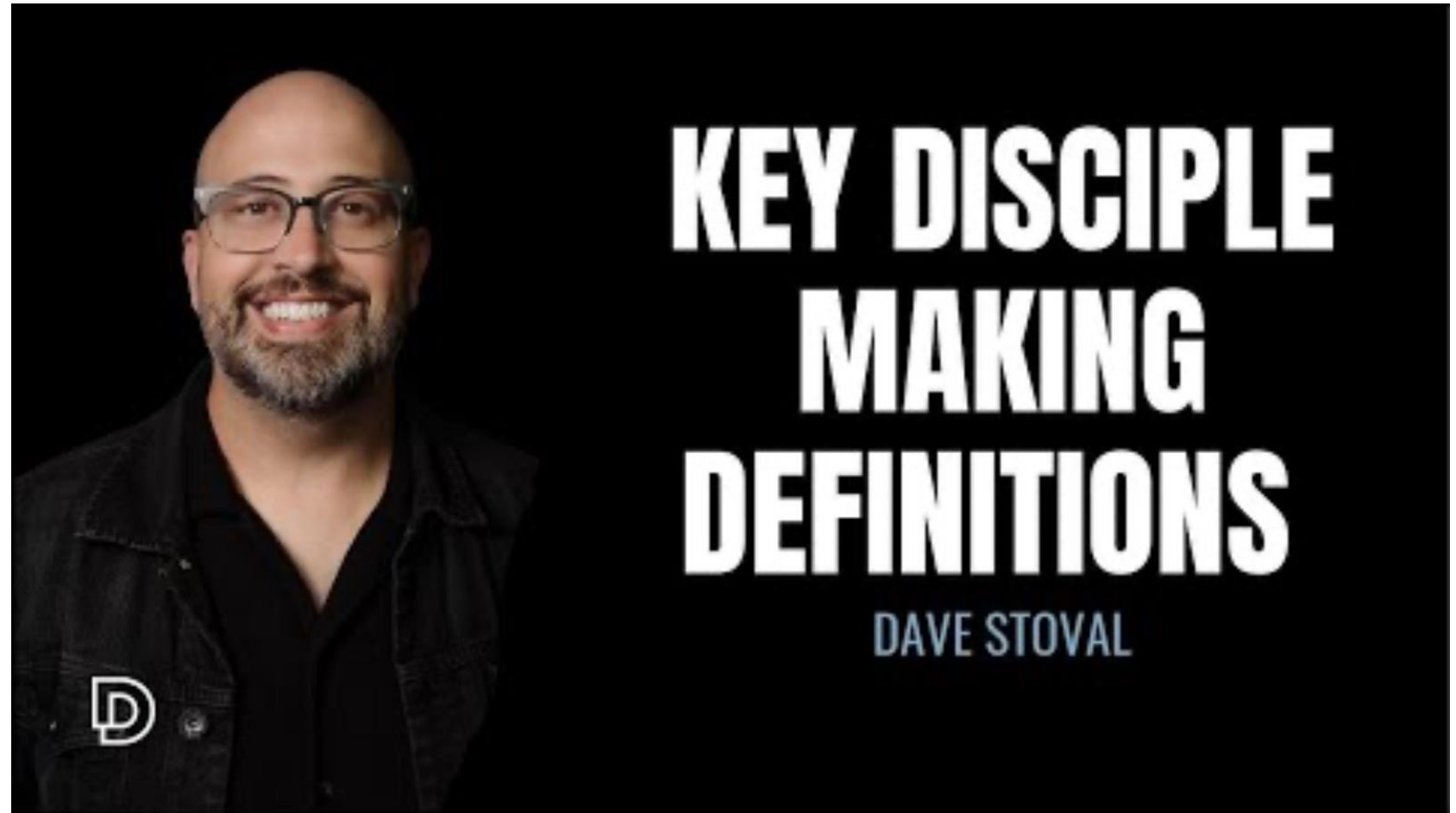
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Key Disciple Making Definitions

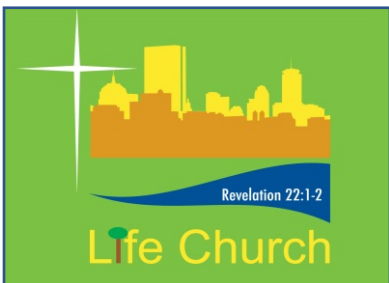




Genesis 1:1-5 (NIV)

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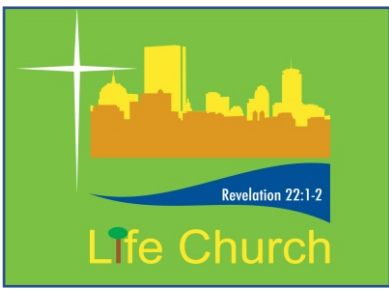


John 1:1-18 (NIV) 1 of 3



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There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.



John 1:1-18 (NIV) 2 of 3



The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

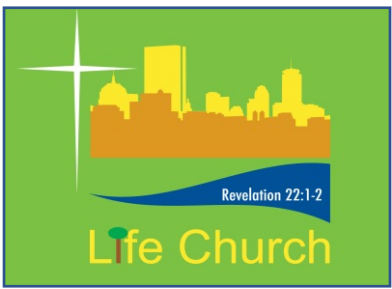
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John 1:1-18 (NIV) 3 of 3



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Bible Project: Jesus - "Word of God"





Narrative

John evokes the creation account in Genesis 1.

He establishes “the Word” as:

- having existed from the beginning
- existing in community with God
- being God

He establishes “the Word” as:

- fully involved in creation
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Narrative (continued)

He introduces John the Baptizer as a witness to the light which will shortly be revealed to be Jesus.

He establishes that Jesus:

- was the author of creation
- was not recognized by the world he created
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Narrative (continued)

John is part of a community (“we”) that shares a common testimony:

- Incarnation: The Word became flesh and “tabernacled among us”.
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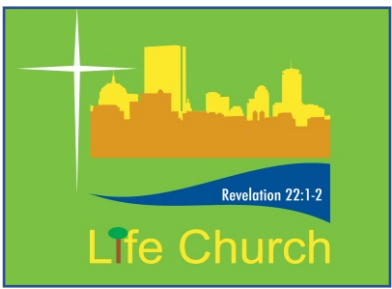


Observations

When was John written?

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Observations (continued)

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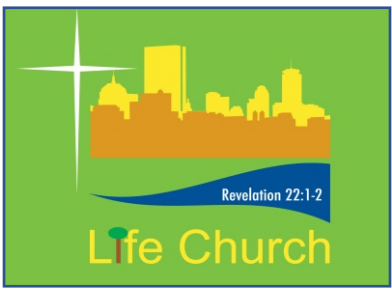
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Lessons

- Jesus is more than just a “good teacher” – he is God in human form.
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- Jesus is full of grace and truth. If you want to be who God wants you to be and do what God wants you to do, you need to turn to Jesus.
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Lessons (continued)

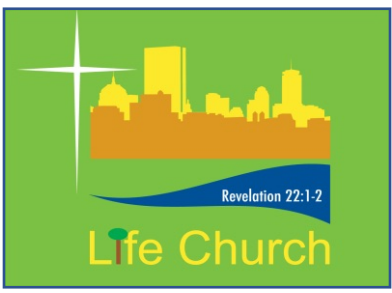
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Q&A / Discussion





Announcements



Visitor Page

- Sunday Service December 28, 2025
- No Men's Bible Study Wed (12/31) - New Years' Eve
- Watch Night Fellowship December 31, 2025
- Sunday Service (Communion) January 4, 2026
- Sunday Connection January 4, 2026 12n - 2pm
- Men's Bible Study Wed (1/7) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service January 11, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (1/14) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service January 18, 2026



Q&A / Discussion





Benediction, Life Groups



Announcements

Benediction

Life Groups

Leave Service From Life Groups