

AND THERE WAS LIGHT:

Unwrapping the Wonder of Christmas

Year after year people everywhere expect to experience the joy and wonder of Christmas through the gifts, gatherings, traditions and twinkling lights. **But what if this Christmas meant something more?**

According to John's Gospel, the birth of Jesus was a historical event of *cosmic proportions*. That's because Jesus was no ordinary child. He is *Immanuel* – the eternal *God with us* - the fulfillment of ancient prophecies, and the true Light for all mankind. From the very beginning, he was, is, and will always be our only Savior. So how would this Christmas be different if - instead of presents and parties - we chose to be wrapped up in the awe and wonder of almighty God coming to Earth so you can be reborn, fully forgiven, and truly loved by our heavenly Father? Join us this December at The Story, as we begin our journey through the Gospel of John and encounter the true meaning of Christmas: ***The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son... full of grace and truth. - John 1:14***

November 30, 2025 - Share The Light

How have you experienced awe and wonder in Christmases past?

John 1:1-5 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.

How is the Gospel of John's birth story different from other Gospels? Why do you think John felt the need to write his own account?

IN THE BEGINNING...

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Why would John go all the way back to Genesis 1:1 to introduce Jesus to his readers?

Jesus existed _____

John 8:56-58 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

...WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD...

What does Logos (λόγος) mean how was the term used in both Jewish and Greek cultures?

What is the significance of John calling Jesus the Word?

Jesus is _____
Jesus is _____

Revelation 19: 12-13- His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE.... IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND THAT LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL MANKIND

We often think of God the Father as the creator, but what role does Scripture say Jesus played?

Colossians 1:16-17 - For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Jesus is _____ and _____

How is Jesus THE life and THE light? Where do you need the life and light of Christ, this week?



Champion Project Christmas Wishes

This year we're partnering with the Champion Project to spread Christmas cheer to foster kids! Visit **thestory.church/wishes** to learn more about shopping for their gifts, volunteering at our event on 12/13, or "sponsoring" a child.



Grab your FREE tickets for Children's Christmas Choir!

Tickets for our Children's Christmas Choir show on Sunday, December 14 at 5:30pm are now available! Visit **thestory.church/events** to learn more and grab free tickets for your whole family.



Save the dates for our SIX candlelight services this year!

Travelers - Thurs. 12/18 @ 7pm
Eve Eve - Tues. 12/23 @ 6:30pm
Eve - Weds. 12/24 @ 1:30, 3, 4:30 & 6pm

Sign up to serve or pre-register for nursery:
thestory.church/christmas