



# The Foundation of our Faith

## (1 John 1:1-4)

*Study Notes Handout: Jan 21<sup>st</sup>*

*We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. - 1 John 1:3*

*According to the Bible the one big thing that matters is that we should be right with God...it always brings us back to that source, that the most important thing of all - is our relationship with God.  
- Martyn Lloyd-Jones*

### John's Purpose in Writing:

*John writes Christians so we might know what true fellowship with God (and joy in God) looks like, that we might know the part we play in maintaining it, and that we might know the forces at work against us to destroy it.*

Sermon Outline: The Source of our Fellowship with God is Jesus Christ.

1. Which Jesus? (Liar, Lunatic, Legend or Lord)
  
2. The Jesus that was from the beginning (1:1)
  
3. The Jesus that appeared to the Apostles (1:2)
  
4. The Jesus that was proclaimed by the Apostles (1:3-4)

### Questions for Reflection / Discussion:

- i. How is fellowship with God a key theme all throughout Scripture, beginning in Genesis?
- ii. How is the person of Jesus Christ central to our fellowship with God? What alternative ideas have you heard someone propose about the heart of Christianity?
- iii. Why are both the deity and the humanity of Jesus essential tenets of the Christian faith?
- iv. How is fellowship similar to and different from friendship? What interrupts your assurance of fellowship with God most?



## Study and Discussion Questions

### *1 John 1:1-4*

#### Explore It

1. How did God reveal Himself to us? ([1:2](#))
2. Why were the author and his fellow believers telling others about Christ? ([1:3](#))
3. With whom did this community of believers have fellowship? ([1:3](#))
4. Why was this letter written? ([1:4](#))

#### Get It

5. How important are firsthand eyewitness testimonies, such as this writer's, to your belief in Jesus?
6. How is our fellowship with God related to our fellowship with other believers?
7. In what ways can we enhance our fellowship?
8. In what way is your joy complete?

#### Apply It

9. What can you do to better appreciate the historical foundation of your faith in Christ?
10. What steps will you take this week to deepen your fellowship with other believers?