

## VBF Study Lesson 3

### 1John 1:1-4 part 2

As you read through 1John and begin this study, ask God to open your heart. As the Psalmist prayed: "Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Thy law" (Psalm 119:18).

*Assignment:* In the next week prayerfully **read** through 1John entirely and then chapter 1. Then attempt to answer the following discussion questions.

*Questions:*

1. REVIEW: What major theme(s) did you discover in your last lesson in the book of 1John? What is the book about?
  
2. REVIEW: From your last lesson, what did the apostles hear, see, behold and handle (1:1)? Explain.
  
3. What does verse 2a say? In context who is "the life" mentioned in 1:2?
  
4. How does the following help us understand the phrase "the life was manifested"?
  - a. 1:2
  - b. 3:5
  - c. 3:8
  - d. 4:9-10
  - e. 4:14
  - f. 5:20
  - g. 1 Peter 1:17-21 (c.f. 20)
  - h. Titus 2:11-14
  
5. What does John bear witness of and proclaim (1:2)? Explain.
  
6. What does John mean by the phrase "the eternal life, which was with the Father" (1:2)?
  - a. John 1:1-2

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- b. John 6:37-38
- c. John 8:41-43
- d. John 16:26-28
- e. John 17:4-5
- f. 1John 4:9-10
- g. John 3:16

7. When was the life manifest to the apostles (1:2)?

8. Why do you think John uses the terms heard, seen, beheld, handled in 1:1-3?

9. From 1:3 (and the context), what does John “proclaim” and why?

*Lexical note:* The word translated fellowship is *koineia*. It speaks of sharing, communion or participation.

10. What do verses 5-7 have to say about fellowship? (We will look at 5-10 in depth next time).

11. Who does John say his (“our” i.e., the apostles) fellowship is with (1:3)? How do verses 5-7 relate to this type of fellowship spoken of?

12. Why does John proclaim what he has seen and heard also (1:3)? I.e., what is the purpose?

13. Why does John write these things (1:4)? See 3John 1:4.

14. Would John’s joy be complete if he were to be speaking of your life? If not what needs to happen?