

Week of November 16, 2025 - Fellowship with the Father and the Son Small Group Lesson 1

Connect

Think about a time you felt "in sync" with someone—a friend, family member, or teammate—where you were working or playing together effortlessly. What did that feel like?

Verses - 1 John 1:1-4 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. In verses 1-2, John repeats "heard," "seen," "looked upon," and "handled." Why does he so strongly emphasize that he and the apostles had a real, physical experience with *the Word of life*—Jesus?

2. According to verse 3, what is the connection between believing the apostles' message and having "fellowship... with the Father and with His Son"? What is John wanting to declare?

3. The word "fellowship" means "sharing in common." Based on the sermon, what does it practically mean to be in fellowship with God?

4. John's reason for writing is "that your joy may be full" (v. 4). How does fellowship with God and with other believers lead to complete joy?

Share

Discuss 1:
Pastor Takeshi used the analogy of following tech support to describe "fellowship" with God—we do what He says because we trust Him. How does this challenge or change your normal approach to your daily Quiet Time (QT)?

Discuss 2:
The sermon described spiritual growth as becoming "more & more dependent on the Father." In what area of your life is it easiest to be independent and hardest to be fully dependent on Him?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.