

## Shadow Mountain Women Summer Study 2021 The book of First John

### WEEK 1: First John Chapter 1

#### STUDY REMINDERS:

**To enrich your study**, use a hard copy Bible or print out the chapter so you can underline, circle, write down a note, etc.

**As you read and/or listen to this chapter**, do so slowly, thinking, praying to understand, to remember what you read, Pray for Christ-like change in your life.

#### STUDY GUIDE (bookmark) - **Before you read the chapter:**

##### 1. **Prepare**

- a. Humbly pray before and after you read asking the Holy Spirit to guide you.
- b. Decide what to observe before reading.

##### 2. **Read it** – OBSERVE and learn from:

- a. The people and places
- b. Key words and repeating words/phrases
- c. Statements about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit
- d. The main points, what is being said and why?
- e. What can I apply to my life?

##### 3. **Think it** – **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE** A daily mini-memory verse (1-5 words) OR a weekly verse(s).

##### 4. **Think it** – **MEDITATE on the WORD**, what it's saying, why. Pray to live more and more Christ-like.

##### 5. **Talk it** - Be intentional to talk about it with family, friends, a group, etc. and **LIVE IT!**

### **Building blocks**

1. John the Apostle, author of the Gospel of John, does not identify himself as the writer of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John, but his teaching themes in John and 1st John are parallel, including God is love and light.
2. Apostle literally means one who is sent, a messenger. A disciple is a follower. John the writer of this book, was both an apostle and disciple of Jesus. (John could have met Jesus as a teenager, being one of the youngest disciples.)
3. John had a clear understanding of church persecution and the horror of the Roman regime. He was alive when Rome destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD.

## Reading Tips

1. It's interesting to note that the Apostle John uses the word "Word" (with a capital W) when referring to Jesus.
2. John clearly emphasizes his in-person time with Jesus, an eyewitness of Jesus Christ's ministry and life.
3. Notice how John uses light and dark as powerful metaphors for how to live and to find truth.

## Read and Think Questions

Use actual words from the chapter as much as possible to answer these questions.

1. Read First John chapter 1 then read the gospel of John 1:1-5.
  - a. List the words that are repeated in both passages.
  - b. Considering these verses, how do you think Genesis 1:1 influenced John's writing?

2. Review your list from question one, noting that John was intentional with these words. After each word, write down what can be learned about our Savior and how to live.

Examples: John calls Jesus "The Word"; Jesus was "in the beginning."

3. Think about the word "*word*" ... written, read, spoken, heard, etc. Why do you think John chose "Word" to refer to Jesus?

4. In first John 1:3-4, what does John want us to have?

Why?

5. Towards the end of the chapter, verses 7-10, John refers to confession. Why is confessing sin so important?

Review and think about this chapter. Choose a verse(s) you can think about, perhaps a mini-memory verse that can prompt recall and meditation on what you read. Meditate on this chapter. These are steps to applying God's love "that your joy may be full" (I John 1:4). **Now, prayerfully evaluate, what to work on, how to apply it and live it out.**