

The Glory and Grace of the Word Made Flesh

John 1:14-18 | John 1-3: Behold the Son of God, Pt. 3 | Good Shepherd
Community Church | May 2-3, 2026

Big Idea: See the GLORY and receive the GRACE of the Word made flesh!

Opening

- The sermon used the image of camping with others to describe God “tabernacling” with us. What associations do you have with camping—positive or negative? How does this image help (or challenge) the way you think about God’s nearness?

Section 1 – God became human to dwell with us (John 1:14a).

- Read John 1:14a. What does it mean that “the Word became flesh” rather than merely appearing human or using a human agent?
- The sermon explained that “dwelt among us” means “tabernacled” or “set up camp.” What does this imagery suggest about God’s desire to be near His people?
- In what ways do you find it easier to keep God at a distance rather than living in close, daily fellowship with Him?

Section 2 – When you see Jesus, you see the glory of God (John 1:14b)

- Read John 1:14b. According to John, what is it that people actually see when they see Jesus?
- Jesus is described as “full of grace and truth.” How would you define each of these in your own words? Why is it important that grace and truth are held together in Jesus rather than separated?
- Which aspect of Jesus’ glory do you find most compelling right now—His compassion, holiness, authority, humility, or sacrifice? Why?

Section 3 – God gave us witnesses to the glory and grace of Jesus (John 1:15-17)

- Read John 1:15-17. What role did John the Baptist play in helping people recognize who Jesus truly is?
- The sermon described the law as a witness and Jesus as the reality. How does this reshape how we read the Old Testament? Why do you think God chose to prepare His people through centuries of witnesses rather than revealing everything all at once?
- Who have been key witnesses in your own life – people or circumstances God has used to point you to Christ?

Section 4 – Receive grace upon grace from His fullness (John 1:16)

- Read John 1:16 again. Why is receiving grace different from merely knowing facts about Jesus?

- The sermon reminded us that Jesus must be received, not just admired. What can prevent people from receiving Him even when they know about Him?
- Where in your life right now do you most need to experience fresh grace from Christ's fullness?

Section 5 – Be embraced by the eternal love of God (John 1:18)

- Read John 1:18. John describes Jesus as being “at the Father’s side” (in the bosom of the Father). What does this tell us about the eternal relationship between the Father and the Son?
- The sermon said Jesus didn’t just reveal that relationship—He invites us into it. How does this expand your understanding of the gospel beyond forgiveness?
- Why is adoption into God’s family such a crucial part of the good news? How might embracing God’s love as Father deepen your walk with Him?

Next Step Takeaways:

- With God as His Family:
 - Practice intentional nearness with Jesus this week to see His glory and receive His grace.
 - Set aside unhurried time to be with Christ – read a Gospel passage, linger over His words, and ask, “What does this teach me about His glory and grace?”
- With Others as His Servants:
 - Identify and engage one relationship where you need to reflect Jesus more clearly – not just truth without grace, or grace without truth, but both.
- On Mission as His Missionaries:
 - Look for one “set up camp” opportunity this week.
 - Enter someone else’s world – over a meal, a conversation, or a simple act of service – so they can experience Christ’s love through you.