

1 John 1:1-4

Pg 1021

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. John claims his teaching is authoritative based on his eyewitness testimony. What are some of the events John observed firsthand? (Consider 1 John 1:1; John 13:23-26, 18:15-16, 19:25-27, 19:33-37, 20:1-9, 21:20-24; Mark 9:2-8.)
2. How does John 1:1-4 and John 1:14 help us to better understand what John is writing about in the opening verses of 1 John? What are some of the common themes and words he uses?
3. John's stated goal in 1 John 1:3 is that his readers may have fellowship with the apostolic eyewitnesses and with the Father and Son. What is the significance of us today having fellowship (or partnership) with these apostles who were with Jesus during his earthly ministry and encountered the risen Christ? And how does their apostolic message bring us into fellowship with the trinitarian God?
4. 1 John is written to a church that had seen some members leave to follow false teaching about the identity of Christ (1 John 2:22-23). Why is it so important for the church body to be steadfast in unity and fellowship around foundational gospel truth? What are some of the key threats and dangers that tempt people in our day to stray from orthodox teaching?