



Lesson 1: A Credible Witness (Text: 1 John 1:1-4)

Message focus: John, the beloved disciple, is the human author of the Epistles of John. Along with these three epistles, he is credited with authoring the Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation.

He writes with authority and conviction and is a very credible witness. Before we dive into the heart of the letter let's learn a bit more about him. Like us, John has a testimony and reputation. His is forever recorded in the Bible, while much of ours has not yet been written.

My hope and prayer is that we will gain courage from the fact that Jesus used an average guy, like John. If he used John, surely he can use us.

1. What do we learn about John, his family and the family business from Matthew 4:18-22?

A.

2. Why would it have been difficult for Zebedee to see his sons leave and follow Jesus?

A.

3. Fishermen tend to have a bad reputation (Lying, cursing, loose living). If God wants people to see John as a credible witness, why would He allow his past to be recorded in the Gospels?

A.

4. The setting in John 13 is the Last Supper, when Jesus broke bread with His disciples for the last time before He was crucified. It was then that He revealed that one of his disciples would betray Him. What does Peter do upon hearing this news? Where is John during this time? What does this event say about John's relationship with Jesus? (John 13:21-26)

A.

5. John does not mention his own name in this Gospel book he authored. How does he refer to himself? (John 13:23)

A.

Do you believe using this term showed he was prideful or humble? Why?

A.

6. In John 19:25-27 we find perhaps the greatest indicator of the close relationship John had with Jesus. What responsibility to Jesus give to him?

A.

7. If time permits, have everyone who will share at least one fact about themselves that others may not already know (Marital status, work/job, favorite hobby, etc.).