

September 15, 2024 *The Word Became Flesh* John 1:14-18

1. In Exodus 33, Moses asked to see God's glory and was only allowed a small glimpse. How does this parallel passage help us understand John 1:14–18? How does the fact that "the Word became flesh" change what we can see?

"The glory of God, once restricted to the tabernacle (Ex. 40:34), is now visible in Christ (John 1:14b). And two things must be noted: (1) This experience of glory is concrete. It is not a mystical vision and an inward illumination. The glory of God took up tangible form and was touched (20:20–29; 1 John 1:1ff.). (2) This glory was not merely a display of power. For John the deepest irony is how glory is to be found in suffering and humiliation, for in this Gospel, the cross of Christ is again and again described as Jesus' glorification (John 12:23–24; 13:31). His signs and miracles showed his glory, to be sure (2:11; 11:4), but it is in the cross that the mysterious, unfathomable glory of God is to be found. (Gary M. Burge, <u>John</u>, The NIV Application Commentary)

- 2. What does it mean that Jesus became flesh and continues to exist in that form (Philippians 3:20-21)? How does knowing that Jesus remains in a glorified physical body affect how you relate to Him?
- 3. What does it mean to receive "grace upon grace" from Jesus' fullness? How have you experienced His grace in your own life?
- 4. Why is it significant that Jesus is called "the one and only" [*monogeneis*] who makes the Father known?

## What do we see about Jesus?

Jesus came in the flesh to dwell with us, to reveal God's glory to us, and to make His grace fully available to us.

Jesus, the eternal Son, fully and completely shows us the Father!

## Respond to the section "what do we see about Jesus?"

- Head: What did you learn / what were you reminded about who Jesus is?
- **Heart:** What specific steps can you take to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ?
- Hands: What ways can you live differently because of these truths?