

THE OTHER SIDE OF CHRISTMAS: Christmas From God's Perspective

John 1:1-5

John the Apostle lived in the largest Greek-speaking, Greek-thinking city in Asia Minor, called _____

First Century Hebrew & Greek Thinking: A Primer

Jewish Thinking:

What the Jews understood about ' _____ '

- Common people in Israel spoke _____
- _____ was the language of rabbis and bible students.
- Tanakh - paraphrased versions of the Old Testament, translated into _____
- 1st century translators of the Hebrew Old Testament were uncomfortable with anthropomorphisms.

'The Word of God' - God relating to humankind _____ in a human-like way.

Greek Thinking:

- 'The Word' became a descriptor of a great presence of logic that _____ over the universe.
- 'O logos' was essentially the _____ of God, in control of the world, speaking to the minds of all people.

"In the _____ was the Word ('o logos'). And the word was _____ God and the Word _____ God." John 1:1 - Genesis 1:1; 2 Cor. 8:9; Phil. 2:6-7; Genesis 1:26

Three big themes:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

"He was with God in the beginning. _____ Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made." John 1:2-3

Colossians 1:16-17, Hebrews 1:2-3; Revelation 4:11; 1 Corinthians 8:6

"In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The _____ shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:4-5

He is the _____. He is in _____ relationship with God. He has come to give us _____ to live by. That light guides us to eternal _____

Find the bulletin online at 2RC.tv/Bulletin | Prayer Tower Code: 4630#



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WORSHIP VENUES

TWO RIVERS
LIVE

Modern Worship | Live Teaching
Sat 5:30P; Sun 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the Worship Center



Edgy Environment | HD Video
Sunday 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the Student Center



Acoustically Driven | HD Video
Sunday 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the River Room

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What venue did you attend?

☐ Live

☐ Amped

☐ Blend

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Find all upcoming 2RC events at 2RC.tv/Events

ALL CHURCH

Did You Know?: We have collected over **550 Christmas cards** for our missionaries! They will be so blessed this holiday season. Thank you so much for sharing your love & blessings!

YouVersion: 2RC is now in the YouVersion Bible App! Click on “More” & search “Two Rivers Church” under the Events tab, or select us from the map to follow along with the sermon notes. Take your own notes too & save them for later! Learn more at 2RC.tv/YouVersion.

IMPACT

Run For Their Lives: This Freedom 424 race series, exists to bring freedom & justice by raising awareness of sexual exploitation & human trafficking and providing financial support to partner organizations that work directly with those impacted by this form of modern day slavery. Sign up to walk or run at UT Gardens on January 27 at 2RC.tv/R4TL. Fundraise a minimum of \$50 and run/walk for free!

STUDENTS

Fuel Christmas Party: This is *Not Your Grandma’s Christmas Party*! High schoolers, come on **December 6 at 6:30P** dressed as the 90-year old version of yourself as we celebrate Christmas! We’ll see you in the Student Center!

MSM Christmas Party: Middle schoolers, on **December 6 at 6:30P**, put on your Christmas pajamas and join us for a night of food, fun & all the joy of Christmas morning! Bring your Christmas morning excitement to the River Splash Theater & we’ll see you there!

WORSHIP

Worship Arts Auditions: Are you a vocalist, instrumentalist or interested in volunteering with the tech team? Auditions will be held on January 14. Sign up to audition at 2RC.tv/Auditions or contact Diana.Utter@2RC.tv for more information. Sign ups end December 10!

PRAYER REQUESTS

☐ I PRAYED TO RECEIVE CHRIST TODAY!

MID-WEEK TIMES

MSM (6-8 Grade)
Wednesday 6:30-8:30P
[River Splash | 2RC.tv/MSM](https://2RC.tv/MSM)

FUEL (9-12 Grade)
Wednesday 6:30-8:30P
[Student Center | 2RC.tv/FUEL](https://2RC.tv/FUEL)

The Well (Prayer & Worship)
Wednesdays 6:30-8:30P
[River Room | 2RC.tv/WELL](https://2RC.tv/WELL)

1829 (18-29 years old)
1st Thursday 7:00-8:30P
[The Shed | 2RC.tv/1829](https://2RC.tv/1829)

NEXT STEPS

Learn more about these opportunities to explore, connect & engage at 2RC.tv/NextSteps

EXPLORE

- ▶ Find a worship venue
- ▶ Complete a connection card
- ▶ Attend a Taste of Two Rivers

CONNECT

- ▶ Visit Staff at Get Connected
- ▶ Join The City
- ▶ Register for Wade In

ENGAGE

- ▶ Join a Group
- ▶ Find a place to serve
- ▶ Share your story
- ▶ Partner with us

LIVE IT OUT

Find this week’s full study guide at 2RC.tv/StudyGuide

Putting The Bible Into Practice:

How would you describe Jesus to someone unfamiliar with Him? What errors in thinking does John 1:1-5 correct? Compare John 1:1-2 & 17:5; 1:4 & 5:26; 1:4 & 8:12; 1:5 & 3:19; 1:5 & 12:35. What do you observe? What core truths emerge from these passages?

Describe some ways Jesus has ‘lit up’ your life? Where in your life do you need Jesus’ ‘light’ to overcome darkness? What do you observe in Colossians 1:16-17 & Hebrews 1:2-3?

What impact does Jesus being creator of all things have on your faith? What does it mean that Jesus upholds or sustains the universe? Does your life feel more held together when you are walking with Jesus & obeying Him, or when you are drifting on your own? Describe.

Challenge:

Walk in Jesus’ light. Draw life from Him. Join Him in overcoming the darkness around you!

