

Series: Just the Basics
Title: The Basics About Jesus
1 John 1:1-4

Introduction

As one of Christ's original Apostles, John was a credible witness of the resurrected Savior. John begins his first letter by declaring he had personally seen, heard, and touched Jesus Christ. He invites his readers to join him in fellowship with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.

1. _____ is a central theme of John's letter.
2. John emphasized that those who say they love God but do not love those around them are _____.
3. _____ also teaches that Jesus' love for us can best be seen in His _____ sacrifice.
4. John also warns that in the last days, many _____ will arise.
5. The author is the same John who was one of Jesus' 12 _____.
6. His audience was the Christian communities in and around _____.
7. These churches were under attack by some _____ teachers and needed John's spiritual guidance to prevent further spiritual damage.
8. Even though many of the believers distanced themselves from these false teachers, they were still deeply _____ in their faith.
9. Many Americans are very interested in spirituality but are also confused about what real spirituality is and how to _____ it.
10. He writes this letter to _____ us that we can know God.

I. The Real Jesus

11. Some of the false teachers claimed that Jesus was just an _____ man, born the same way we were.
12. Jesus has _____ existed as God—and entered human history through his birth.
13. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the divine-human King and _____ of humanity that the Old Testament predicted.
14. In order to represent us as humans, he had to be _____ human.
15. For his death to have _____ value to pay for the sins of every person, he had to be divine.

II. The Truth About Jesus

16. John claims he is only one of the _____ eyewitnesses whose testimony is trustworthy.
17. Here's the summary: They “_____” Jesus claim to be God.
18. John 10:30 Jesus says, "I and *My* Father are _____."
19. They saw Jesus link these _____ directly to his claims to be God.
20. The disciples also “_____” his body after he was raised from the dead.
21. The New Testament truth is that we can know that Jesus was God-incarnate, the unique Savior, and the rightful King of humanity because John and the other disciples left this _____ testimony about Jesus.
22. Jesus' disciples paid for their testimony with their _____.

23. Christianity is firmly anchored in the eyewitness _____ of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

III. The Fellowship of Jesus

24. John shifts from the past to the _____ tense and from the historical to the current.

25. Jesus came to earth, died on the Cross, and rose from the dead *so that* we could _____ the priceless gift of eternal life.

26. Jesus came so you could have _____ with him and his Father.

27. Jesus made it possible for you to experience God's love and develop a _____ with Him.

28. Jesus' Spirit comes to live in us when we put our _____ in him as our Lord and Savior.

29. It is His Spirit that enables us to experience God's love and know Jesus in a _____ way.

30. People need to come in contact with an _____ believer who can tell them that Jesus is alive, that he loves them, and that they can actually meet him and experience his love for themselves.

31. John challenges you to open the door of your _____ to Jesus and ask him to come in.

32. The only thing that can ever truly fulfill your life is _____.

33. When you meet Christ, you can talk to God as a _____ with your own words.

34. You also discover that you have a deep spiritual bond with _____ who also know Jesus.

35. We are spiritually strengthened when we _____ how Jesus has changed us.

36. This is what "fellowship" is—sharing the life and love of Jesus _____.

Conclusion

37. When you know Jesus, you experience a rich _____ in sharing him with other people.

38. In Christ, there is always a joy that is deeper and more _____ than any other joy.

Most people come to realize and understand that the most essential things in life are not things at all; they are the relationships and friendships we build.

ANSWERS

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|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Love | 14. genuinely | 27. relationship |
| 2. liars | 15. infinite | 28. trust |
| 3. atoning | 16. multiple | 29. personal |
| 4. antichrists | 17. heard | 30. authentic |
| 5. disciples | 18. one | 31. heart |
| 6. Ephesus | 19. miracles | 32. Jesus |
| 7. false | 20. handled | 33. friend |
| 8. shaken | 21. eyewitness | 34. others |
| 9. experience | 22. lives | 35. share |
| 10. assure | 23. accounts | 36. together |
| 11. ordinary | 24. present | 37. joy |
| 12. always | 25. experience | 38. energizing |
| 13. Savior | 26. fellowship | |

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. How does the eternal nature of Jesus affect how you read the Old Testament scriptures?
2. How can multiple testimonies add to the confidence we have in their conclusions about Jesus?
3. How can seeing an authentic believer help a person to see legitimate spiritual reality? What can you do to make your belief in Jesus more visible this week?