**Advent 2022 Series December 11, 2022**

**God is the Savior – John 1:1-13**

The Big Idea: Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who was sent from God the Father to cause those whom God desires to be children of God

The Savior is Revealed as the Word John 1:1-3

* Word (Logos in Greek):
  + The word John uses to introduce Jesus Christ as the **Savior of the world**
* The word “Word” connected with John’s audience in two ways

1. A reference for Jews to “**the word of the Lord**” as the prophets would have spoken

Isaiah 38:4  
Then the **word of the Lord** came to Isaiah, saying…

2. A reference to the person of **Jesus Christ** (see Luke 5:1)

* He was “In the beginning”
  + The allusion is to the creation narrative (see Genesis 1:1)
  + It is a reference not to the beginning of Jesus Christ, but rather to the beginning of the creation of the universe which Jesus Christ pre-existed
  + The Word created the universe and everything, seen and unseen, was made by Him (see Psalm 33:6)

The Savior is the Source of Life and Light John 1:4-5

* **Life** comes through Jesus Christ
  + Notice the connection back to creation
  + Notice how the source of all things is the Savior (see John 11:25)
* The **light** is the revelation of God through Jesus Christ so that the world may see Him (see John 8:12)
* Darkness is the **absence of light**, but it’s much deeper than that in the Gospel of John
  + Darkness is the absolute presence of evil
  + Even though God’s Word is shared and proclaimed, many still reject it and remain in darkness

The Testimony to the Savior John 1:6-8

* John the Baptist was sent by God to **point toward the Savior**
  + His mission was to be a witness
  + Some people wrongly confused John the Baptist with the Savior, but here John the apostle is making is clear that he was “not the Light”
  + John the Baptist’s purpose was to testify about the Savior (the Light)

Many Would Not Receive the Savior John 1:9-11

* Not every person will **believe in Him**
  + Even though the Light shines and “enlightens every man” (1:9b)
  + Even though He was in the world (1:10a)
  + Even though He created the world (1:10b)
  + Yet those in the world rejected Him, even His own people, the Jews, who “were His own did not receive Him”

The Savior Receives all who believe in Him John 1:12-13

* Believe is a verb, meaning, **it requires action**
  + It is a trust that begins at conviction, makes aware of sin, and draws the person to the salvation given through Him
    - This is the definition of “receive”
    - It is an on-going situation endures all of life
* Those who believe become “children of God”
  + These were “**born**” which was John’s way of looking forward to the Holy Spirit, who causes a person to be born again (see John 3)
  + No person “blood,” “flesh,” or “will of man” can save a person
  + Only the will “of God” will be effective to save a person through the Savior

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