

Finding The Light In The Darkness

Rise & Shine, December 27th

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Commentary from Facilitator Maggie Gough:

Facing massive challenges in the months ahead, President-Elect Biden calls for our unity; suggesting that it's our best hope to overcome the crisis. What does unity look like for us? How will we speak to, and bring about the light in the midst of impending darkness?

In the News

The 'Darkest Days' Are Ahead Of Us, Biden Warns About COVID-19 Pandemic

President-elect Joe Biden warned Tuesday that the coronavirus pandemic will get worse before it gets better.

"Our darkest days in the battle against COVID are ahead of us, not behind us," Biden told reporters during a year-end news conference in Wilmington, Del.

He said that Americans, when united, could overcome the crisis, and he called the first vaccines being administered a good thing. But he noted that distribution of the vaccines is one of the biggest operational challenges the country has ever faced.

Continue Reading The 'Darkest Days' Are Ahead Of Us, Biden Warns About COVID-19 Pandemic by Domenico Montanaro on NPR <https://www.npr.org/sections/biden-transition-updates/2020/12/22/948929003/watch-live-biden-gives-remarks-ahead-of-the-holiday>