



The Best Story

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Q—What is your favorite story?

⇒ **It's a story that is _____.**

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. Luke 1:1–4 (NIV)

⇒ **It's a story that is _____.**

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NIV)

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. 1 John 1:1–4 (NIV)

⇒ **It's a story that is _____.**

"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us")." Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

Q—Is the Christmas story your story?

ANSWER KEY: historical, purposeful, personal



Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

Theme: *Eye Witnesses of Christmas*

Warm Up: What is one of your favorite novels and why?

Sermon Response: What was a "take-away" you received from Sunday's message?

Read: Luke 1:1-4

- What was the purpose of Luke writing this prologue, as it sets the tone for the Christmas narrative to be more than a story but an actual account?
- How does it speak to you as it relates to the importance of seeking certainty of our own faith?

Read: 1 John 1:1-4

- John writes as an eye witness of Jesus. Why is this so important to us?
- What would that have been like for you, if you were able to physically hear, see and even touch Jesus?
- What is John's goal of proclaiming what they had seen and heard?
- How do you think he made his joy complete, in not only writing this letter but also the gospel that bears his name? How does it bring joy to you personally?

Read: John 1:1-5, 14

- What do you find interesting about the similarity between John's opening words in John 1 and 1 John 1?
- Why does John refer to Jesus as the "Word" which "became flesh and made his dwelling among us", and what is the significance? How does this apply in your everyday life?
- John also refers to Jesus as the light of life. How is this true for you, both personally and in a practical way, as you desire to grow as a Christ follower?
- How can Jesus be both "full of grace and truth" to you personally? How can we learn from his example to do the same with others as well?

Prayer: Share needs and also ways God has answered prayer in your group.