

## Thursday, May 7

We learn from John's introduction to his readers and to us that God is faithful, God comforts us and that God possesses infinite power and resources. We also learn that Jesus is the first born of the dead and that he has completely conquered death. Jesus is a witness to the goodness, love and mercy of God; he is the one through whom we receive lives that are abundant and eternal. Jesus is described as the firstborn from the dead. Jesus died for our sins and while we were still sinners. Jesus came to teach about our loving Creator; he was the clearest demonstration of God's incarnate love. How is God incarnate in you? How do you reflect the love of God? As Jesus did, we are to point toward our all-knowing, all powerful, all loving God! Write your thoughts here.

## Friday, May 8

In the reading of the book, *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*, by Jim Cymbala, one night when they were in a worship service, suddenly one of the choir members, a female choir member, started unzipping her robe and pointing to the former needle marks in her arm where she had been an addict. And then she took her shoes off and showed where there were places between her toes where she would inject herself. She said, "But Jesus freed me of that addiction." Suddenly, a man from the back, disheveled and smelly, started walking down the center aisle. And Preacher Cymbala said he went to meet the man and said, "What can I do for you?" And the man simply said, "I want to meet the Jesus she's talking about." Think of when you met Jesus and how that meeting changed your life. What difference has a relationship with Jesus the Christ made in your life? Meditate on that question and write your reflections here giving thanks to God!

## Message Notes May 3, 2026

### *Adult Confirmation 101: Jesus the Christ\**

- I. According to Yoodli, here are some key elements for \_\_\_\_\_ a guest speaker successfully:
  - A. Research and gather \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Establish the speaker's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Build \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. Keep it concise and \_\_\_\_\_.
- II. John argues that the Jesus he was introducing is and has always been \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. The dual nature of Jesus as fully \_\_\_\_\_, fully \_\_\_\_\_ which is a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. I would make the distinction about the eternal life of the \_\_\_\_\_, the chosen one of God and in fact part of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. It's reassuring to remember that Jesus the Christ is the one \_\_\_\_\_ we can depend on and that his will is going to ultimately \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. In \_\_\_\_\_ terms, what does this mean?
  - A. First, it means that we can trust God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Second, it means that we can find \_\_\_\_\_ in God's constant \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Third, it also means that we can tap into God's unlimited \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- D. John's description continues. Jesus is also called the faithful \_\_\_\_\_.
1. The Greek word "\_\_\_\_\_" in our reading is *martus*.
  2. A martyr is someone who bears the \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. Paul reminds us that "Christ died for the \_\_\_\_\_." (Romans 5:6).
- IV. But Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ isn't the end of the story.
- A. As the firstborn from the \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus walked out of his tomb showing us that he has \_\_\_\_\_ over death and offers the same to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. In John's introduction we learn that God is \_\_\_\_\_, God \_\_\_\_\_ us and that God possesses \_\_\_\_\_ power and resources.
  - C. Jesus said to his disciples, "If you know \_\_\_\_\_, you will know my \_\_\_\_\_ also."
  - D. May we, with confidence say, "If you know \_\_\_\_\_, you will know my \_\_\_\_\_ also; from now on you do know him and have seen him."

## ***Daily Devotional Guide***

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, May 4**

Close your eyes and pretend that you are having a conversation with Jesus. Pretend that you have been asked to provide an introduction of Jesus to a room full of people. What information and credentials would you want to share? Which of this information and credentials are most important to you? What do you believe Jesus would want you to say? What would you say about your relationship with Jesus? Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, May 5**

Read Revelation 1:4b-8. The "4b" represent the second portion of that verse beginning with the words, "Grace to you and peace..." As you skim over these five verses, what words are used to describe Jesus the Christ? Without looking at your notes, write what you consider John of Patmos believes is important. What do you believe is more important to John? Take some time today to think about an actual introduction of Jesus. How would you begin such an introduction? What information is critical for people to understand about Jesus? How would you end your introduction? Write some notes about how you would craft your introduction of Jesus? At least write your beginning and ending sentences in this space. Ask for God's inspiration in completing your introduction of Jesus.

### **Wednesday, May 6**

Again, read Revelation 1:4b-8. Jesus is a Holy Mystery being fully human and yet fully divine. Look over your Message Notes and decide what is the eternal part of Jesus the Christ? What comes to your mind. Why is that eternal part of Jesus the Christ important? What do you consider to be the eternal part of who you are as a human being? Pray for understanding of the holy mystery that is Jesus the Christ. Why might it be important to understand the mystery of Jesus, fully human, fully divine? Meditate on that understanding and write your reflections here.