UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information. You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- · CityTeam Outreach Saturday, December 21st @ 4 pm
- Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, December 24th @ 5 pm
- · Altamont Church Potluck Sunday, December 29th after the service
 - Extol: Prayer & Praise Thursday, January 9th @ 7 pm

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here! Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

"Angels We Have Heard On High" - Edmund Hamilton Sears, Richard Storrs Willis

"Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)" - Paul Baloche, **Brenton Brown**

"Here I Am To Worship" - Tim Hughes

"O Holy Night" - Adolphe Charles Adam, Placide Cappeau, John S. Dwight

"Christ Be All Around Me" - David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.......\$34,434.00 Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$1,687,266.00 Giving Last Week.. ..\$37.067.00 Y-T-D Giving..... ..\$1,677,256.00



12/15/19 | MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH | MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MESSAGE NOTES

Light With Us John 1:6-13

REVIEW

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

- 1. Jesus is the eternal Word (full expression) of God.
- 2. The Word is the creator and first cause of all things.
- 3. The Word is the author and giver of life.
- 4. The Word is the only source of true light in a spiritually darkened world.

John the Baptist's testimony:

John 1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.



The contradiction seen in humanity's treatment of Jesus:

- 1. Jesus entered into His creation and continues to shed light upon all humanity.
 - **John 1:9** The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
 - a. The price Jesus paid in coming is incalculable.
 - **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 - **Phil. 2:5** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, **6** who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
 - b. The benefit is for us He came to reveal Himself and the Father.
 - **John 1:4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- 2. Despite His illuminating and creative work, humanity refused to acknowledge Him.
 - **John 1:10** He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.
 - **John 3:19** And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. **20** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.
- 3. Jesus came "home" but His "family" rejected Him.
 - **John 1:11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

The contradiction seen in Jesus' treatment of humanity.

- 1. Despite his/her ongoing rejection of Jesus, a person can still receive Him by trusting in who He is and what He's done.
 - **John 1:12** But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,
- 2. When a person does receive Jesus, God...
 - a. ...changes the nature of their relationship...
 - **John 1:12** But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,
 - b. ...and creates a new kind of life within.
 - **John 1:13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
 - **John 8:12** Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Our relational growth with God depends on our response to the light Jesus brings.

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.