



# Prayers Anchored in the Gospel of John

## John 1:1-18

Tuesday January 7

\* O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, you Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

\* **The Collect**  
Collecting your thoughts so you can focus  
on God.

## John 1 (NIV)

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<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup> Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

 **Scripture**

\* This is a time when you will want to meditate on some part of the passage (John 1: 1-18) throughout the day. You might choose to memorize a verse, or imagine that you are one of the characters in the passage. Let the passage sink deep into your soul in some way.

John only points to Jesus - his part in the story is very important - as a witness to Jesus. This gospel account is meticulous about validating through witnesses (as in a court hearing) that Jesus came from God.

I wonder what it was like to grow up as Jesus' cousin and know that your whole existence is to introduce Jesus to the world? I also wonder if I could refocus my whole life so that my main purpose is to introduce Jesus to everyone in my sphere of influence?

\* **Meditation**

\* John the Baptist was supposed to point the way to the Christ. He was just the voice, not the Messiah. So everybody's calling has dignity to it and God seems to know better than we do what is in us that needs to be called forth.

\* [James Green Somerville](#)

Read more

at <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/j/jamesgreen237083.html#fHqw9DhlBbTYlkrJ.99>

\* **Meditation**

His name is John,  
a man who was a lamp,  
at least that is what Jesus said,  
“a burning and shining lamp.”  
The implication is clear:  
The lamp is a torch through the darkness  
to find the Light of the World.  
As the lamp comes closer to the Light,  
its radiance is overwhelmed.  
It is in the presence of a stronger shining.  
It decreases as the Light increases.  
Yet there is no comparison.

The child cannot be found by competition.  
The lamp and the Light meet  
in the mystery of communion.  
The two become one  
while remaining two.  
Follow John and find Jesus.  
Find Jesus and find the fullness of John.



# Meditation

John Shea: [\*Starlight: Beholding the Christmas Miracle All Year Long\*](#) (New York: Crossroad, 1993)

\*“You must increase while I must decrease.”

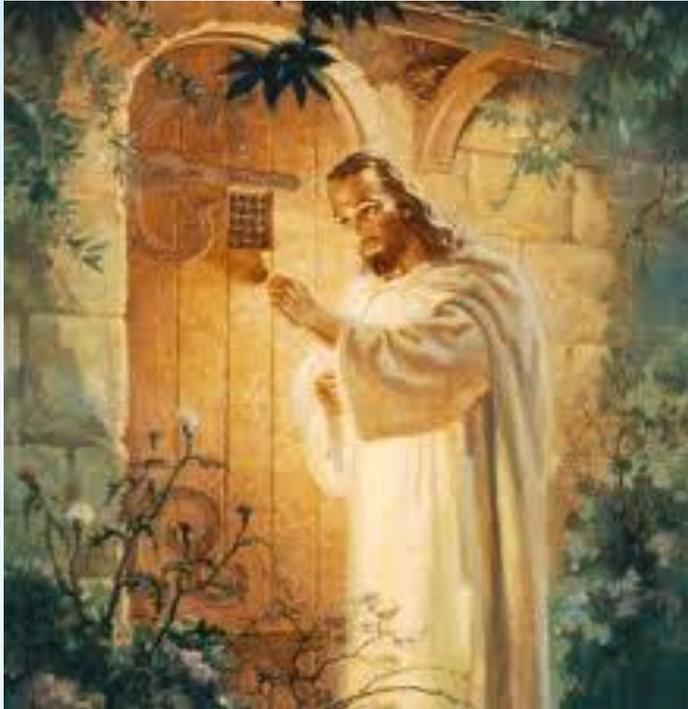
John the Baptist

\***Response**



\*When you talk with Jesus do you listen or do you do all the talking? Let the conversation between you and Jesus become more about Jesus and less about you. What is He saying to you?

\*Prayer



\* Pray for good things to happen to someone of whom you sometimes feel jealous.

\* Prayer

Jesus, I desire that you become the most part of my life. I want to point people to You, even if that means that I end up saying some outlandish things. I will prepare the way for you - call people to repentance so that others will recognize you. Sinful people will not recognize you because of their spiritual blindness.

Bless me as I cry out the words you have given me in the wilderness. It can be lonely at times but it is what you have called me to do. May I see Your smile, and sense Your pleasure in my calling.

Amen

Len Thompson

 **Blessing**