To Know and Make Known Jesus Christ

Scripture: **1 John 1:1-2**

Series: **Doctrine and Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John**

Sunday, January 18, 2015

Overview

The letter of 1 John is written to strengthen the Church in doctrine and devotion. In this first sermon we see that Jesus is worth knowing and making known.

Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Joe shared about Joseph's Deli in Geneva. What is something that you love and you just have to share with everyone? What is it about that thing that makes you so excited? What keeps us from having the same feeling about the gospel? Or, if you feel the same strong feelings for the gospel, how does that feeling persevere for you?

2. How does John introduce his letter? [he introduces Jesus.] What do we see about Jesus? [He is real. He is life. He is eternal. He was made known to us.] What are difficulties for us to understand in verses 1 and 2? What about the testimony makes it reliable?

3. People often give all sorts of reasons to not know theology—"It's complicated." "It's too abstract." Why do people give these objections? What does this say about our times? What are difficult things to understand that people seem to allot much time to learn? Why is this so? Why is it so important to have a robust theology?

4. Do we ever get our theology mastered? Do we ever know everything we ought to know about Jesus? Why are we prone to live our lives either as if we already have everything together or as if we don't think we can get it together? How do we come to the Word humble but confident?

5. What are three *negative* things that we should not do as we study 1 John? [Don't be a jerk to others. Don't be a one-hit wonder. Don't treat people like projects.] Do any of these stand out as something that you have done or struggled with in your witnessing to others? What can we do to avoid doing these things?

6. What are three *positive* things that we should do as we study 1 John? [Always be ready to share the gospel. Learn to be a conversationalist. Love your neighbor.] Which of these would you like to sharpen the most? How can we do this?