

Finding Renewal in the Love of God

Unit 2: Discovering Renewal in the Testimony of the Word

Experience 2: Experiencing the *logos*

John clearly portrays Jesus as God's message to the world—the exact, tangible representation of God Himself—the manifestation of the Father, in the flesh, the One who walked among us. This week, allow the simple experiences below to help you understand the reality of the logos in your own life and to cement the truth that God sent Jesus so that you could know Him.

These assignments are intended to be completed one per day. Note that the first experience is particularly designed for a specific time, whereas all the other experiences may be completed at a time of your choosing.

Assignment 1: For a time of worship. During communion today, pray:

- Adore God—praise Him for revealing himself to us through Christ
- Confess that the testimony you give the world is not one hundred percent *in His image*.
- Thank Him for the sacrifice made by both Father and Son so that we might join their fellowship
- Supplication—pray for the person on your right and his/her needs. Or look around the room and pray for those you see.

Assignment 2: Consider the many ways you have “experienced” God through another person. Select *one* on which to focus. What did the experience teach you about Jesus or your walk with Him?

- Spend time in prayer
 - thank God for the experience, for those who were a part of the experience, and for Jesus' life then and today (in the lives of Christians)
- Celebrate:
 - Write a note to someone who shared in the experience, telling them how they or the shared experience blessed your understanding of the Father
 - Call someone through whom you have experienced God and tell them about the experience and how it blessed you

Assignment 3: What event, writing, lesson, or experience has helped you to understand God in a deeper way? Celebrate that testimony in one of the following ways:

- Write a poem or a psalm of thanksgiving and praise
- Write a journal entry or blog about the event, writing, lesson or experience
- Tell someone about your experience

Assignment 4: Take a walk by yourself or agree to walk silently with someone else (sunrise or sunset might be nice!). As you walk, consider the testimony God provides in His creation.

- As you walk, watch for some symbol to remind you of God's blessing, provision, creativity, or awesome character; carry it along with you
- Sit down and be still; let your thoughts wander through the pastures of His graces
- Converse with Him throughout your walk

Assignment 5: Consider your own testimony concerning Christ. What would be a tangible representation, or logo, to represent your portrayal of God? Try one of the following:

- Draw a picture of your logo
- Go through your purse and choose something in it that is a likely logo for your life; consider what it represents and how you might better represent Christ; be prepared to share this at class (if we have the time).
- Show your *logo* with someone else; ask what it communicates to them *or* explain to them how you think it represents you and which parts that are like you, but which you would like to change.

Assignment 6: Look through a modern version of a gospel. Use the subtitles to help you select a story about Jesus that helps you to better understand God. Read the story and consider it off and on throughout the day. Share your thoughts with someone else.