

Pawn Stars

1 John 1:1-4



“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.” - 1 John 1:1

Main Point: Some things can be forged and faked, but when it comes to our faith there are some clues that demonstrate the realness of our faith. Is Christianity worth buying into?

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

Have you ever watched the show “Pawn Stars?” What was one of the most impressive finds you’ve seen on the show?

Have you ever considered pawning something? Was it of real value or just a piece of junk?

Have a Volunteer Read 1 John 1:1-4

John wrote as a pastor dealing with concerns the congregation faced, and he wanted to show that fellowship with God and other believers is based on a correct understanding of who Jesus is and what He came to do. He was writing a sermon to hit the Gnostics on the head and let them know Jesus is real and His claims to be the way, truth, and life are legitimate.

The first piece of evidence we have about Jesus’ identity is that He has been **REVEALED**. Read again in vv. 1-2.

What other schools of thought exist today about who Jesus is?

How do the statements in verse 1 give John authority to speak to us about Jesus?

Some thought Jesus was a merely a phantom and not truly human in form. Read John 20:16-17; 26-29. What proof did Jesus offer to Mary and Thomas?

What does Jesus say of those who have not been in Thomas’ place but still believe?

The second piece of evidence we have about Jesus is He can be **EXPERIENCED**. **Read v. 2 again.**

Have you ever heard a CD of your favorite band or seen your favorite team play on TV then actually experienced it in real life? What was the difference?

How are seeing Jesus from afar and experiencing Him in your life totally different?

Read **Acts 9:1-2** and **Romans 1:1-2**. What happened in between these passages that made such a difference?

How has an experience with Jesus made a difference in your life?

The final piece of evidence we have about Jesus is He can be **SHARED**. **Read vv.3-4 once more.**

Verse 4 reveals John's purpose for writing this letter. What was it?

We joyfully relate to the Father and to one another because of our life in Jesus Christ. Are you rejoicing in your relationship with the Lord? With other believers? If not, what are some of the things that have been stealing the joy of your salvation?

Who has been missing out on the joy of your Salvation and fellowship with the Father because you have not "declared" the good news? Pray for opportunity to be open about your faith and share who Jesus is with that person this week.

Pray:

Close in prayer by thanking God for Jesus' incarnation and its implications for our lives. Thank God for making a way for us to be restored to a right relationship with Him. Also pray that each of us would appreciate and take joy in our relationship with Jesus and would want to share it with others.

Connect:

Is it difficult to think of Jesus Christ sharing common human experiences with us? If so, what does this say about our view of Christ's humanity? Ask people to read John 4:6, Luke 2:52; John 19:28; Matthew 26:37; and Mark 4:38 to get a picture of Jesus' human experiences.