These discussion questions are designed primarily to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the sermon, go to NewCityChurch.ca/sermons

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: John 1:1-14

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.

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.

9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. **12** But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Bottom Line: If you want to know God, you have to get to know Jesus because in Jesus God has made himself known.

QUESTIONS

What are your first impressions of this passage? What line or thought jumps out at you?

1. How does this text speak to your life?

- How does this text help you understand that Jesus cannot simply be a great teacher? In other words, how do we miss the point of this passage if all we think about Jesus is that he is a great teacher?
- The central claim of this text is that Jesus was God, and took on flesh and dwelt among us. When did the actual weight of this truth—that God took on flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood, as it were—begin to impact your life?

2. How does this text speak to us as a church community?

• What comes to your mind when you think about a community of faith that is shaped and impacted by this text? What would be it's focus? What kind of environment would take shape among the congregation?

3. How does this text speak to our city?

- What do you think is one of the main points of this intro to the Gospel of John is important for our city to know?
- How does 1:12 challenge the way people in the city typically think about religion in general, and Christianity in particular?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....