OUR FELLOWSHIP

1 John 1:1–4

Key Verse: 1:3

1. List the terms the author uses to describe Jesus (1–4). What does it mean that eyewitnesses could hear, see with their eyes, look at and touch him with their hands? (1a; Jn1:14; 20:24–28) That he was “from the beginning” and that he “appeared”? (1,2; Jn1:1,2,18) What heresy did this refute? Why did the author begin his letter this way?
2. Note how the author repeats the word “proclaim” (1–4). What does it mean to “proclaim” Jesus? (Ac13:38; Col1:28; 1Ti3:16) Why is proclaiming him the central element of Christian fellowship? (Eph4:14–16)
3. Why did the author proclaim Jesus? (3) What does it mean to “have fellowship” with those who proclaim Jesus? (5:1; see Jn20:21; Gal2:9; Php1:5,7; 2:1; 3:10; Phlm6) To have fellowship “with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ”? (Jn14:20,21,23; 2Co13:14) How did this make their fellowship different from human fellowship?

1. What did the author say was his ultimate purpose in writing? (4; cf. 2Jn4; 3Jn4; Jn3:29) How can we share in this joy? (cf. Lk15:4–7)