Glimpses of grace

John 1:(1-9),10-18

Remember the Creation story in Genesis, how God spoke and created the world? The Apostle John echoes that structure and poetic language to describe how Jesus – the Word – came into the world and his role in creation.

In the beginning was the Word ✻. The Word was with God. The Word was God. In the beginning, when everything was created, the Word was with God. Everything that was made, way back then, was made through the Word. Without the Word the world would be empty.

The Word is life and light. Even in the darkness, this light shines so brightly it cannot be hidden.

A man called John ✻ was sent by God to tell everyone about the light, so that everyone would believe in the light. Just to be clear, John was not the light; he was sent to let the people know that the light was coming.

When the light arrived, though, nobody recognised him. Although the world had been brought into being through him, most people wanted nothing to do with him. To those who saw him and did believe, he gave the power to become God's children.

So the Word became a person and lived with us and we have seen his glory. John told everyone about him, saying, 'Although he's a younger man than me, he was here before me and is much more important than me.'

We have all received good things again and again, because Jesus Christ came into the world. Moses gave us the law; Jesus gave us truth and grace ✻.

Nobody has ever seen God, but his son Jesus helps us to understand just how wonderful God is.

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See session outline on p.10

Stop & share

Read the story and pause at the ✪ to share these points with the children.

- ✪ The Word refers to Jesus.
- ✪ John is Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist, who baptized people in the river and told them to prepare for the coming of the Messiah.
- ✪ Grace is God's kindness or help, which is given freely and cannot be earned.

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