# 1 John
## The Great Reminder

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## Introduction

- Fairfield in 2013:
  - 1 John
  - Vision Sunday (17 March)
  - Job
  - Mark's Gospel
- This morning:
  - Background
  - Key Themes
  - Prologue (1:1-4)

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## 1 John 1:1-4 Background

- John
- Ephesus

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# 1 John
# Key Themes

- Testimony to the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Affirmation of the all sufficiency of Christ's sacrificial death
- The coming of Jesus in the flesh
- Assurance of salvation & Holy Spirit
- Demand to love one another
- Responsibility to live as Jesus lives – in light, not in darkness
- God is love



# 1 John 1:1
# From the Beginning

- In the beginning was the Word
- Beginning with Jesus' birth
- Incarnation – Jesus, the God man.
- Twin dangers:
  - Routine
  - Cult of 'newness'



# 1 John 1:2
# Eternal Life Appeared

- Jesus – eternal life appearing
- Seen, heard & touched
- Countering claims that Jesus was just a spirit
- Brining together truth handed down (Scripture) and personal experience

# 1 John 1:3
# Fellowship

- Practical implications of apostolic testimony:

1. Assurance:
   - **Know** you have eternal life
   - Holy Spirit testifies concerning Jesus Christ
   - 'Our blessings are none the less real than because they rest on faith rather than sight.' David Jackman
2. Fellowship
   - True spiritual unity grounded in the gospel.
   - Service of Christian Unity – Sunday 20 January



# 1 John 1:4
# Joy

3. Joy:
   - Complete joy
   - Joy linked to fellowship
   - Attitude we should have
   - Joy comes ultimately from knowing the realities of our faith