Introduction:
1. Eye witness accounts reveals to us what we need to know, but could not see.
2. John declares the authenticity of Jesus through his eye witness account.
3. In this lesson, John establishes three primary aspects to his epistle...

I. THE FOUNDATION -1:1, 2
A. HE HAD BEEN WITH JESUS
   1. The Gnostic belief was that Jesus could not become sinful flesh.
      a. They believed the flesh was sinful
      b. They believed that Deity could not inherit sinful flesh
      c. This was a doctrine John had to combat in his epistle
   2. John declared that He did -Jn 1:14
      a. He appeared to His disciples -Lk 24:39
      b. He appeared to Thomas -Jn 20:27

B. FIVE ASPECTS OF THE ETERNAL LIFE OF CHRIST
   1. He was with God in the beginning -Jn 17:5
   2. He was prophesied in the OT -De 18:15-19
   3. He was incarnate -Jn 1:14
   4. He is at the right hand of God -Ac 2:36; He 1:1-4
   5. He will return -1Th 4:13-18

II. THE MOTIVATION -1:3, 4
A. TO DECLARE JESUS UNTO THEM
   1. Through Jesus we are reconciled unto God -2Co 5
   2. All Christians have been washed by the same blood -Ep 1:7, Ac 22:16

B. TO FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER
   1. We have all been added to the same body -Ac 2:47; Ep 1:22, 23, 1Co 12:13
   2. We together are the family of God -1Jn 3:1; Ro 8:16, 17

C. THEIR JOY MAY BE FULL
   1. Full joy comes through the sacrifice of Jesus -1Pe 2:23, 24
   2. Full joy comes through obeying the gospel -2Th 1:7, 8; Ro 6:3, 4

Conclusion:
1. John wanted his readers to know that Jesus is the Son of God.
2. When we put our faith in Jesus and follow Him, salvation is ours.