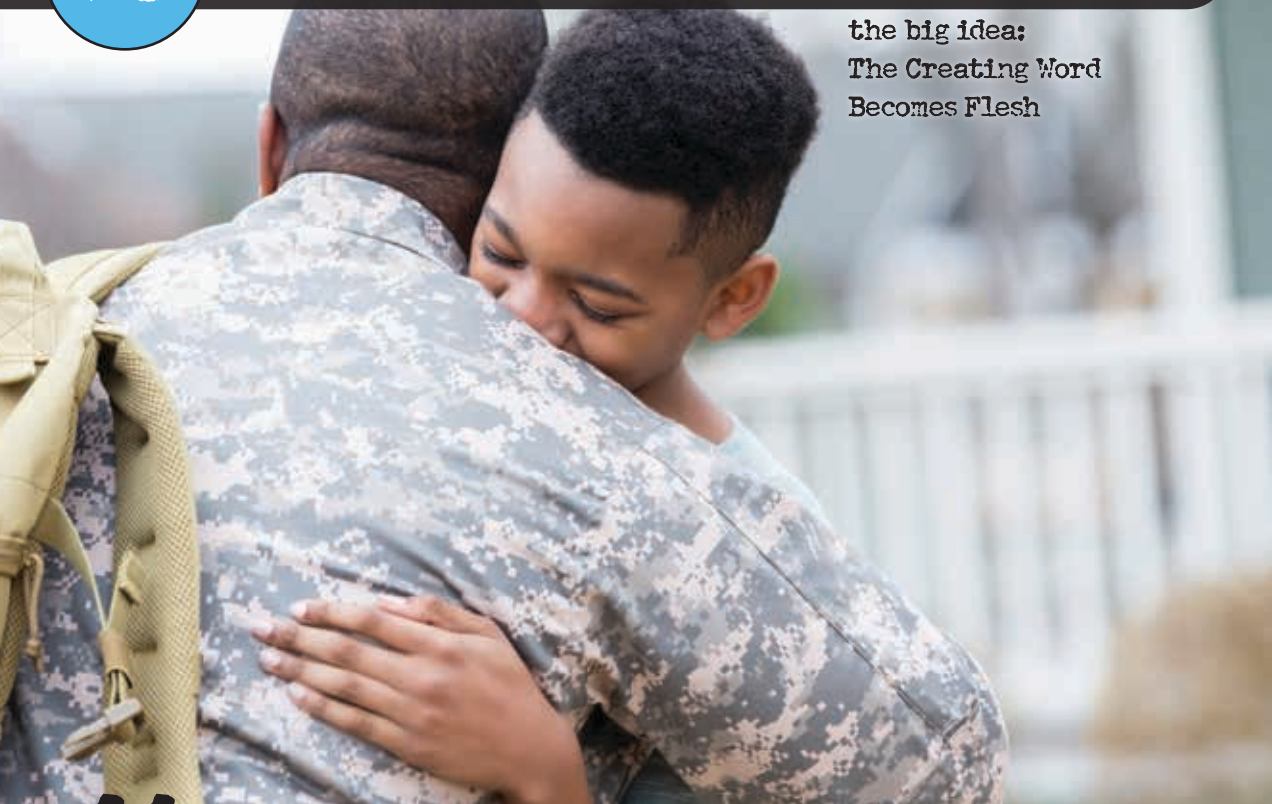


## 7.3 The Reason for It All

the big idea:  
The Creating Word  
Becomes Flesh



“Dad”

“What is Daddy like?” Jermel asked his big brother, James.

“Well...,” James started to answer. Jermel was only 2 when their dad was sent overseas, so he didn’t have a lot of memories. He was in the military and had been gone for over a year.

“Dad is a really great guy. He’s funny and helpful, and he teaches us to do all sorts of cool stuff. He’s strong and can fix anything. He taught me how to play basketball and how to fish, and we’re going to do all that stuff with you too!”

James missed Dad a lot, so he was thrilled that he was finally coming back home this week-

end. He would be stationed in San Diego, and the family would finally all be together again.

“We’re all so happy he’s coming home finally! You know that giant bookshelf in the corner of the den?” his mom said. “Your daddy built that. And everything we have around here is because he made sure we were well taken care of. And when he’s back, we’re going to have so much fun. He’s the life of the party. We’ll laugh until we cry!”

“I can’t wait ’til Daddy’s home!” Jermel said.

“Can we throw him a big party?” asked James.

“Of course!” Mom said.

from your Bible

**John 1:1–14, NIV**—In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> **He was with God in the beginning.**<sup>3</sup> **Through him all**

**things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.**<sup>4</sup> **In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.**<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John.<sup>7</sup> He

came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.<sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.<sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not re-

ceive him.<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—<sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

## Scripture discussion

How do we understand the origins of life? John begins by explaining that Jesus, the Word, was God's creating and redeeming agent in the world. Just as we make our thoughts and feelings known through words, God is revealed fully to us through Jesus Christ, God's Word.

Jesus was in the beginning with God, and He was present in the darkness before God created light (see Genesis 1:2–4). Jesus has an intimate understanding of what darkness represents, so He was sent to Earth in human form to represent light and salvation. Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist, was sent to tell others about this light. He is an example to us all.

## make it real



### check it

1. Why didn't Jermel know about his dad?
2. How was it evident that Dad cared for his family even though he wasn't there to be with them physically?
3. What do you think James can do to more adequately give a good picture of who their dad is to his little brother?



### think it

1. Who is the Word, and what do we learn about Him in John 1:1?
2. What does it mean to you personally that Jesus came and lived among people in flesh and blood?
3. The life of John the Baptist displayed to others who Jesus was. How can we as believers live a life that makes Jesus known to those who interact with us on a day-to-day basis?



### do it

In today's lesson, we learned about Jesus, the Word and Light, coming to the Earth to bring clarity and communication about who God is. We also learned that John the Baptist gave his life to ensure others understood who Jesus was as well. In groups, read today's passage and write down as many descriptions and details about Jesus as you can. In verse 11, we see He was rejected. Many of us have felt that way. How many other details can you come up with about Jesus, and how many of those can you relate to?



### keep it

**"He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind" (John 1:2–4, NIV).**