**Lesson 4**

**Read as a class The Gospel of John chapter 1: 1 – 4 and verse 14.**

**Below you will find one way of explaining these verses to pupils.**

The key thing for pupils to understand is that the concept of the Trinity was in existence from the very beginning of time. Connections need to be made here between the incarnation and creation. Jesus – the word was there at the very beginning.

**God** – John1:1 starts out with the same three words as the whole Bible starts out with… In the beginning…. If we flip back to Genesis 1:1, we see that the next word is **God**, reminding us that God has no beginning and that He was all there was when everything else began, because He made everything else. Now we see something else…

**The Word** – In the beginning was the Word. The Word was there in the beginning, before the creation of the world. So, **who is the Word?** *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.”* This verse is telling us that in the beginning before there was anything else, when there was just God, that there was someone with God and that this someone was God Himself. We know that this verse is talking about Jesus and this verse helps us learn a crucial truth about Jesus. Jesus is God Himself and He has always been. He is fully God.

**Flesh** – John 1:14 says, *The Word became flesh*. Jesus, who we just said is fully God became a person, He takes human form like you and I. This we call **Incarnation** – God in the flesh. This word only refers to Jesus.

So, we can say that Jesus is **God incarnate or God in a body or God in the flesh**. But, how did this happen? Did Jesus just appear one day walking along a road in a fully grown man’s body?

Jesus became a man and took on flesh by being born as a baby. He was born as a baby who would grow up to be the Saviour… the One sent by God to rescue His people.

**Dwell** – the verse goes on to say… *the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us*. Jesus came to **live with people.**  Why is that such a big deal? It’s a big deal because God is perfect… Jesus is perfect….and because of sin, Christians believer that humankind is far from perfect. The perfect God, took on an imperfect body and came to live with imperfect people. He came to live with sinful humanity. The word dwell is the same word as tabernacle. In the Old Testament, God had His people build a tabernacle (or a tent) for Him to live with them, but remember that God, in the most holy place, was separated from the people by a curtain. Now, He is tabernacling with them in human form.

The verse finishes by saying, *We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.* The end of this verse explains that Jesus is the glory of God, He is God Himself.