

Study 1
1 John 1:5-10

I. God is the Light and we can have fellowship with Him (5-7)

Questions

- What verb do you see in verse 5 that again shows John sharing what he has learned? Why does he use the word “announce”?

- What does it mean that “God is Light?” How is this similar to what John wrote in the Gospel of John? Where did he use similar vocabulary about Jesus there?

- What does the Light represent? How about the darkness?

- How do we have fellowship with Christ? How can we have better fellowship with Christ?

- What does it mean to walk in darkness? We are all sinners so do we all walk in darkness?

- What clues can we get from the phrase “practice the truth”?

- What does it mean that we have fellowship with one another?

On Light:

Psalm 119:105 – Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Proverbs 6:23 – For this command is a lamp, this teaching is a light, and correction and instruction are the way to life

John 1:4 – In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

John 8:12 – When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

On Darkness:

Romans 13:11-14 – And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first

believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

II. We are all sinners, but can be forgiven if we confess (8-10)

Questions:

- Have you ever heard anyone say they have no sin? Do you have sin? Is your sin serious?
- Why would someone think that they have no sin or that their sin is not serious?
- What hope do we have? Is it enough to confess our sins once? Who do we confess to (ie: who is the one forgiving us?)

Verse 9 is one of the most famous verses in the Bible and a favorite memory verse for new believers.

1 John 1:9 Bible Verse

Several points:

a) Firstly, we must confess our sins. God offers forgiveness to anyone, but a prerequisite is repentance.

b) Secondly, there is no qualification as to what sins can be forgiven and which ones can't. They can all be forgiven, as long as we confess. The verse says He cleanses us from "all unrighteousness."

c) Thirdly, God is the one who forgives. Since God forgives, we should confess to God, not priests.

d) He not only forgives, but He cleanses. Cleansing is something that we need to do physically quite often, every day in the summer heat. We need to regularly confess our sins.

4. John doesn't mince words. Those who say that they have no sin are liars. They are not disagreeing with us. They are directly contradicting God. That is not a position we want to be in. If we argue with other people we may be right, but if we argue with God, we most certainly are not.