

Walking in the Light

Read: 1 John 1:1-2:2

Main Idea: True fellowship with God and others is found by walking in light, acknowledging our sins, and relying on Christ's atoning work for our restoration.

Key Verses: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)

Key Principles

- When doubts creep in, anchor your faith in the testimony of men who heard, saw, and touched Jesus, not in your shifting feelings.
- Fellowship with God always shows up in fellowship with His people, so a believer who walks alone misses what God designed him to have.
- A claim to know God is only as believable as the life behind it, so our daily walk must match the words we say on Sunday.
- Walking in the light doesn't mean we never sin, but it does mean we stop trying to hide our sin from God.
- Confession is never a loophole for sin we plan to repeat, because honest confession includes turning away from what we confess.
- Since the Father Himself gave His Son as our sacrifice, we can run to Him after we fail with confidence instead of fear.

Discussion

1. Why does John stress that he heard, saw, and even touched Jesus? How can that eyewitness testimony steady you when you wrestle with doubt?
2. How is the fellowship of verses 3-4, a shared life with the Father, the Son, and other believers, different from simply having friends at church?
3. What does it look like to claim fellowship with God while walking in darkness? Where are your words and your walk most likely to drift apart?
4. Why does walking in the light lead to fellowship with one another? What keeps believers from being honest with each other about their struggles?
5. How do people excuse sin without ever saying "I have no sin"? How does God's faithful and just character give you courage to confess instead?
6. How should knowing Jesus is both your Advocate and your sacrifice change your response the next time you fail? What sin do you need to bring into the light this week?

Prayer

- Ask the Lord to make us a people who walk in the light together.
- Pray for:
 - Honest confession that refuses to hide or excuse sin.
 - Fellowship in our church that deepens as we walk in the light.
 - Friends who need the sacrifice Christ offered for the whole world.

Walking in the Light
1 John 1:1-2:2

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| I. | <u>Receive</u> the <u>Life</u>. | 1:1-4 |
| 1. | <u>Trust</u> their <u>testimony</u> . | 1:1-2 |
| 2. | <u>Treasure</u> our <u>fellowship</u> . | 1:3-4 |
| II. | <u>Reflect</u> the <u>Light</u>. | 1:5-7 |
| 1. | <u>Flee</u> the <u>darkness</u> . | 1:5-6 |
| 2. | <u>Follow</u> the <u>light</u> . | 1:7 |
| III. | <u>Reject</u> the <u>Lie</u>. | 1:8-10 |
| 1. | <u>Stop</u> <u>denying</u> . | 1:8, 10 |
| 2. | <u>Start</u> <u>confessing</u> . | 1:9 |
| IV. | <u>Rely</u> on the <u>Lord</u>. | 2:1-2 |
| 1. | <u>Run</u> to your <u>Advocate</u> . | 2:1 |
| 2. | <u>Rest</u> in His <u>sacrifice</u> . | 2:2 |

NEXT WEEK:
This is How We Know
1 John 2:3-11