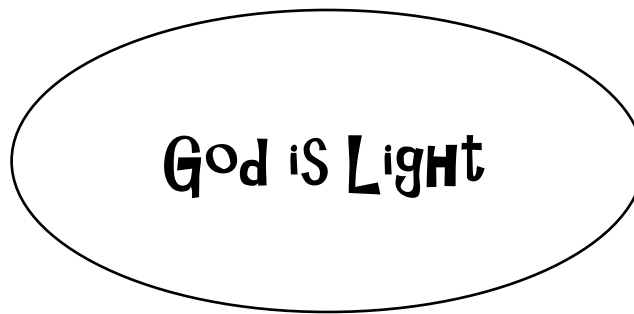


LESSON 2: 1 JOHN 1:5-10



Please read 1 John 1:5.

John uses the symbolism of light and dark in these first few verses. Before we take a look into what he means and implies by this comparison, take a few moments to jot down the thoughts that come to your mind when you think of both "light" and "darkness".

Light	Darkness

John often uses light as a way of explaining the difference between God who is holy and the sinfulness of man. So that we can get a better understanding of what John understood “light” to represent and “darkness” to mean, we are going to take a look back at the gospel of John.

Please read John 1:1-5.

In these verses, what does John describe as “light”?

What action did John say the light did? How was it received?

Please read John 1:6-10.

What purpose did the John the Baptist have concerning the light?

Who was this light?

Who was this light intended for?

The world that Jesus helped created did not recognize or understand Jesus’ message. Why do you think that is?

Please read John 3:17-21.

What is the function of 'light' in these verses?

Lastly, please read John 8:12.

According to this verse, how does a follow of Christ live and behave?



Flee the DARKNESS

Please read 1 John 1:6-7.

What does John say we cannot do if we have fellowship with God?

How would you describe some of the activities that he might be talking about here?

Many cultures around the world have sayings that warn against playing with sin. Read just a few of these sayings below.

“It is against himself that everyone sins.”

Latin proverb

How have you seen this to be true?

A thing of bad quality is expensive though you may get it for nothing.”

Arabian proverb

Many of the sins we fall into cost us much more than money. What are some of things that a sinful lifestyle may ‘cost’ us?

“A sin repeated seems permitted.”

Jewish proverb

How can a sin become easier the more we indulge in it?

“After one vice, a greater follows.”

“Spanish proverb

How can getting comfortable with a sin lead to great and more frequent sins?

No one is Perfect

Please finish reading today's passage by reading 1 John 1:8-10.

What is the danger in believing that we are without sin?

How can remembering that we are susceptible to the same sins that everyone else struggles with lead us to compassion towards one another?

John warns about the dangers of playing with sin, and also the dangers of ignoring or denying that sin exists. Both ends of the spectrum carry serious risks and keep us from enjoying honest fellowship with God. Take a few moments to examine your heart. Is there any area where you are holding on to a sin? Ask God to help you let go. Have you forgotten that you are not perfect but very much in need of a savior? Remind yourself of your intense need for Jesus by thanking him for all the things he has washed you and saved you from. Be encouraged to come into the light and allow it to warm you from the inside out.