

SERMON-BASED STUDY: WALK IN THE LIGHT

1 John 1:5-2:2, ESV – ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ 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. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we were reminded to proclaim what we have heard: that God is light. What does it mean that God is light?
- 2 How have you fallen for the lie that 'I can walk in the light and the darkness'? How can you avoid walking in the darkness?

3 How does walking in the light make you better at seeing others?

DIGGING DEEPER

A *John 3:19-21, ESV – ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”*

4 Looking at the passage above, what is the relationship between truth and light? What is the relationship between evil and darkness?

5 Why do some people believe in Jesus and some do not believe?

6 How should our lives bear witness to the reality that we are walking in the light (truth)?

B *Ephesians 5:6-21, ESV – ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

7 Looking at the passage above, compare and contrast walking in the light and walking in the darkness.

8 Paul exhorts his readers to be filled with light, wisdom, and the Spirit. How can we practically walk this out on a daily basis?

9 How are our individual walks connected with the walks of others in the church body? How does this help each individual avoid walking in the darkness?

TAKING IT HOME

Walking in light means walking in the ways of God. How are you doing at walking in the ways of God? How are you doing at walking with other believers? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is showing you. Pray for one another as you strive to walk together in the light.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 1:2a, 3
John 1:4-5, 8:12
1 Timothy 1:13-14, 2:1-2
1 John 2:9