



STARTING POINT: DAY TWO

WALK IN THE LIGHT

1 John 1

Each day of this seven day Devotional Study we will read a specific passage three times with the intent to get the most out of it. We will ask questions and learn from the passage and finally apply the lessons learned personally to our own lives.

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Devotional For Tuesday 1/9/2018



STARTING POINT: DAY TWO

1 John 1

1ST READING: LEARN. SIMPLY FAMILIARIZING YOURSELF WITH THIS PASSAGE.

2ND READING: IMPRESS. NOTICE WHAT WORD OR PHRASE JUMPS OUT AT YOU OR MAKES THE BIGGEST IMPRESSION.

1 John 1 English Standard Version (ESV)

The Word of Life

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our^[a] joy may be complete.

Walking in the Light

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.

DEVOTIONAL: WALKING IN THE LIGHT

Things to notice:

1. We must go Back to the Beginning

Notice that the Apostle John always seem to get back to the beginning of things (compare to the Gospel of John Ch 1. "in the Beginning") In this case he wants us to know that he as personally seen and heard and touched the things that he is talking about. Notice how many times he used those words (see green highlights).

What is he talking about?

He is talking about "The Word of Life", or Jesus (See John 1:1, 14.) John is talking about the truth. John is telling us that Jesus is real, true, alive and well. That is what he is ready to *Testify* and *Proclaim*. This is his message. John wants all who read this to know that Jesus is as real as you and me and any other person. Not only is he real and can be heard, seen and touched, unlike other people, He is also the one person who has Eternal Life within Himself.

Why is he telling us that Jesus is REAL?

Because he wants for us also to have fellowship with Him. Fellowship is to closely relate to one another, Fellowship is about truly relating to someone, honestly, authentically, without falseness or hidden things. For this to happen, John says, we need to know God as he knows Him. We need to have fellowship with Him, with God, with Jesus.

Next he will tell us just how to do it.

2. There is a notable contrast here. Let's look at it.

Verse 5 make this contrast very clear. There is light and there is darkness and in God there is only light and no darkness. The contrast could not be clearer. Notice the three time the phrase "If we say..." in vs 6,8,10 is used negatively in this passage (compare that to darkness). In each case the words are empty words because there are no good or true actions behind them. They say one thing but do another. They are false words.

How to have Fellowship with God

Now notice the two necessary right actions in vs 7 and 9 in this passage: "walking in the light" and "confessing" our sins. One is *doing* and the other is *saying*. In this case, these two are actually one simple process seen from both of its existing angles. First, "walking in the light" is not living without sin, it is **not hiding sin**. Secondly, "Confessing sins" is not living in a sinless manner, it is being honest about our sins. This is what make the Christian's life successful. We are open and honest about who we are. When we confess our failures we are actually walking in the light.

Most people think you have to live without sin to walk in the light. That is wrong. We have to be honest about our sin, to walk in the light. (Note: that does not mean sin is ok, it just means we are not ignoring it or hiding it)

So Walk in the Light

Our relationships are restored when we don't hide our sins, but bring them to Jesus, confessing them to Him and ask for forgiveness. Because of what He's done — dying on the cross and coming back to life — we're no longer stuck dealing with our sins alone. He is there to keep us and have fellowship with us.

This is truly the best news in the entire Bible. **Walk in the light by confessing your sins to God**, it's really that simple.

3RD AND FINAL READING: LIVE. READ THIS PASSAGE ONE FINAL TIME.

This time, Ask God... what should I start doing, stop doing or continue doing?

Are you confessing your sin to God? (see Matthew 6;12)

How do you know if you have fellowship with God? (See vs 4) We know we have fellowship with him when we are experiencing JOY.