

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship
Sept 6, 2023 | “Basics For Believers” | 1 John 1:5-10

Five Basic Truths for Believers from 1 John 1:5-10:

- 1) God is _____ light (1:5)
- 2) Believers _____ in the light (1:6)
- 3) Believers _____ in the light (1:7)
- 4) Believers _____ the ways they fail to walk in the light (1:8-9)
- 5) Believers don't _____ that they are light without darkness (1:10)

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

1. Read 1 John 1:5-10. What does “God is light” mean? What does “in him is no darkness at all” mean? Is God literally light? Why does John use this metaphor to describe God? How is light used as a metaphor for Jesus in John's gospel?
2. Is it accurate to say that followers of Christ are light? What is their relationship to darkness and light? How is it similar and different from God's relationship to darkness and light?
3. How does John use the term “fellowship” in verse 7? How is this connected to the “fellowship” of 1 John 1:1-4? What is Christian fellowship and how is it related to the ideas of lightness and darkness in 1 John 1:5-10? Do you have fellowship with other Christian believers? If so, how?
4. Would it be accurate to say that you as a believer are “increasingly walking in the light?” Are you “increasingly distancing yourself from darkness?” Why is it necessary for believers to do this? Can a believer ever reach the point where he/she has arrived at pure, dark-less light like God?
5. Why is confession an important part of the Christian life? Who should we confess to? Is confession necessary for salvation? Is it necessary for sanctification? What are the dangers of a confession-less life?

Advanced Question #1: The verb translated “confess” in verse 9 is a present tense Greek verb? Why is that significant? How do you distinguish between justification and sanctification? How is confession a part of our justification? How is it part of our sanctification? See the linguistic and contextual analysis of 1 John 1:9 in the following essay at the TGC website: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/confession-of-sin/>

Advanced Question #2: Is there a difference between the “sin” of verse 7 and verse 8 and the “sins” of verse 9? Is so what is it? If not, why not?