

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 8, 2021

Passage: 1 John 1:5-10

Memory Passage: 1 John 1:5-7

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:5-10.** What does John teach about God by using the metaphor of “light” in his gospel (not 1 John; 23 times in 16 verses: John 1:4, 5, 7, 8, 9; 3:19, 20, 21; 5:35; 8:12; 9:5; 11:9, 10; 12:35, 36, 46)?

(b) Does John use the metaphor of “light” in 1 John 1:5-10 to say the same thing, something different, or both when compared to what you learned from his gospel? Explain.

(c) To whom does the word “him” refer (v. 5) and how do you know?

(d) Summarize “the message” John “heard from him and proclaims to” his audience.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:5-10.** John uses the contrast between light and darkness to introduce one of the main concepts of his letter: sin. Notice the 5 conditional clauses (“if . . . then” with the “then” implied rather than written) appearing in these verses and their relationship to each other. What have you learned about fellowship with God so far in this chapter?

(b) Though our text implies through contrast rather than defining it, what does it mean to “walk in darkness?”

(c) How do we have fellowship with God? About what do we “lie” if we walk in darkness while claiming this fellowship?

(d) Though we usually think of believing or embracing truth, what does it look like to “practice” truth?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 1:5-10.** What does it mean to “walk in the light,” and how does this relate to God (“as he is in the light”)?

(b) What benefits come our way when we walk in the light, and why are they important?

(c) What is the relationship between being cleansed from sin and walking in the light (v. 7)?

(d) Explain the contrast (“But”) between v. 7 and v. 6.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read 1 John 1:5-10.** Why does denying we have sin reveal we are deceived and lacking truth (v. 8)?

(b) Explain the relationship between vs. 8 & 9.

(c) Explain what is meant by God being “faithful” and “just” and the relationship of these characteristics to forgiveness.

(d) To whom must we confess our sins, and what does this confession have to do with being forgiven and cleansed?

(e) Why does denying sin make God a liar (v. 10)? How does it prove “his word is not in us?”

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read 1 John 1:5-10.** Does this passage teach that believers either cannot or do not sin? Prove your point from 1:5-10.

(b) In what ways do you deny/rationalize/dismiss/ignore your sin? What areas of your life do not reflect God’s perfect character (which, by definition, defines your walk to be in darkness rather than light)? How will you respond differently when these opportunities to walk in darkness rather than light arise again?

(c) What does 1 John 1:5-10 have to say to and about those in our world today who call evil good and good evil, have no concept of truth, and promote deception? How should you respond based on 1:5-10?

(d) How does your walk affect your fellowship with other believers (v. 7)? How is the body at large affected when professing believers hold on to persistent, unrepentant sin?

DATE: August 8, 2021

PASSAGE: 1 John 1:5-10

Walking in the Light