

1 John: 1 John 1:1-2:2
Discussion Guide, August 16, 2020
Next week's text: 1 John 2:3-11

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: *"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. - Revelation 22:12-14*

- How did you live in light of victory this past week?

OPEN:

- In a lot of ways, 1 John is a book that gives instruction on normal Christian behavior. If you think of normal/basic/foundational Christian behaviors, what behaviors come to mind?
 - o Why do you these come to mind for you?
 - o Why might it be greatly beneficial to be confronted with some foundational truths and behaviors in this season?
- Sometimes we idolize the early (1st century) church. Books like 1 John (and 1 Corinthians) show us that the early church had struggles just like we do. How does that impact the way you study books like 1 John?

READ and ASK: 1 John 1:1-2:2

- Why is John able to testify to what Jesus said and did?
- What are some reasons John wrote this "book"?
- How is our fellowship with God related to our fellowship with other believers?
 - o How is true fellowship more than just "small talk" or "fun gatherings"?
- What does it mean to walk in darkness? How might that defer from occasionally "messing up"?
 - o How does walking in the light contrast with walking in darkness?
- John seems to be confronting certain people's wrong beliefs or teachings in verses 1:6 and 1:8. What does he call out?

- What aspects of 2:1-2 stand out to you most? Why?
 - o What significance does “Jesus being at our defense” have for you?

APPLY:

- What role does confession play in your Christian life?
 - o Does it need to play a bigger role for you? Why or why not? How does this passage speak to it?

- How important is genuine fellowship to your Christian walk?
 - o If it is, what benefit does it play to your Christian walk and to the walk of others?
 - o If it’s not, what might you and others be missing out on?

- What confidence does Jesus’ atoning sacrifice give you?

- Describe the difference between when you have walked in light and walked in darkness?
 - o If you are willing to share, have you struggled with walking in the light in this season?
 - o NEXT STEP: What step do you need to make to better “walk in the light” this week?

Memory Work: My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. - 1 John 2:1-2