



Lesson 2: Genuine Fellowship With God (Text: 1 John 1:5-7)

Message focus: John is a straight shooter, and makes no bones about declaring that God is Light. This truth is of vast importance to us because without a true source from which to gather information, we are bound to get confused.

Last week we looked at some of John's finer qualities. In this lesson we will consider some of his less than admirable traits. Like John, we too can change as we walk in the light and with the light... JESUS.

1. John is sometimes depicted in an effeminate way in paintings. We know he was not. He was a strong, weather-tested fisherman. During the entire time He followed Jesus on earth he was a "work in progress". What nickname did Jesus give to John and James, his brother, and what does it mean? (Mark 3:17) How might it reflect their natural bent or unconverted character.

A.

2. Have you ever been given a nickname? If yes, what is it? Who gave it to you and why?

A.

3. What not-so godly desire were the disciples debating in Luke 9:46-48? How did Jesus respond to them?

A.

4. Who may have encouraged such a debate in James and John? (Matthew 20:20-23)

A.

5. Luke also records another issue John struggled with. What was it? (Luke 9:49-50)

A.

6. 1 John 1:6 begins with the 3-word phrase "If we say". John uses this phrase 3 times early in this book to discuss 3 separate false assumptions people make. Here, he addresses the false assumption that we can have a good, genuine relationship with God that is independent of how we live. People who believe that have actually created a god of their own making.

How does this verse refute this assumption?

A.

7. What occurs on a regular basis with people who have a genuine relationship with God? (1 John 1:7 end of verse)

A.