



**1 John: Awakened to Love**  
**Mason Stewart**  
**“Truly Sharing in the Life of God”**  
**10/9/2022**

**Key Verses:** 1 John 1:5-2:6

**Key Thought:** While we do not have to be perfect, truly sharing in the life of God does involve surrendering to God's “diagnosis” and “healing” in Jesus Christ.

**Points to Consider:**

- 1:3: The preacher wrote the sermon so that the hearers would maintain their share in the life of God because certain people sought to lead them astray. (See 2:19, 26.)
- 1:6, 10; 2:4: These people *claimed* to share in the life of God but disregarded God's “diagnosis” of their condition, as well as God's offer of “healing” in Jesus Christ.
- Like the hearers, we— too— are vulnerable to disregard God's “diagnosis” and “healing” in Jesus Christ; it is common to look to sources other than God to inform our sense of morality.
- 1:5: “God is light” is a metaphor, implying that God is the source of reality and ground of morality. 1:7: “Walking in the light” refers to *recognizing* and *responding* to God as the source of reality and ground of morality.
  - i. We surrender to God's judgments about us (i.e., God's “diagnosis”).
  - ii. We surrender to a process of transformation (i.e., God's “healing”).
- 1:5-6: Disregarding God's “diagnosis” and “healing” (i.e., “walking in the darkness”) is:
  - i. A risky leap of faith.
  - ii. To remain “sick.”
  - iii. A choice not to share in the life of God.
- Anyone can share in the life of God who will surrender to God's “diagnosis.”
- 1:7,9; 2:1-2: God does heal in Jesus Christ!

**Discussion Prompts:**

- Discuss our vulnerabilities in listening to sources other than God to inform our morals.
- What does it mean to “surrender to God's diagnosis,” and why is that so important?
- Describe your relationship with “confession.”
- Can you share an experience of God's “healing” through Jesus Christ?