

WALKING

A STUDY OF 1 JOHN

Community Group Discussion: 08.11 - 09.08

SERIES OVERVIEW

1 John talks a great deal about love and our “walk” with Jesus. When we walk in love, we are walking in His steps. And whether you’ve been walking with Jesus for years, or just taking your first steps, John wants to make it clear to Christians that if they are going to walk as Jesus walked, it will only be by the power of the Spirit.

MAIN TEXT

1 John 1:1-2:2, Philippians 1:6, Acts 2:28, 1 Peter 3:21, Romans 3:3-4, Galatians 5:24, Acts 22:16

GETTING STARTED

When was the last time you fell down? Be honest, what’s your first reaction when you see someone else fall?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read 1 John 1:1-2. John emphasized that he and others heard, saw, and even had physical contact with Jesus. Why is it important that John and others heard, saw, and touched Jesus, and didn’t just relate a story someone else told?
2. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing Jesus? How have you experienced each?
3. Read 1 John 1:3-4. Our relationship with Jesus is personal, but not private. Why is it essential to be in relationship with other believers? How is your Christian community? What would you like to see changed?
4. Read 1 John 1:5-7. We tend to look at sin in two extremes. 1.) Permissive: We all sin so it’s not a big deal. 2.) Punitive: Pointing out other’s sin and condemning them. How does your faith in Jesus change your view of sin?

5. Read 1 John 1:8-10. Why is repentance such an important part of the Christian life? What are the consequences if we are unwilling to repent? Do you consider yourself someone who is quick to repent? What causes us to delay repenting?
6. Read 1 John 2:1-2. Our first steps are often followed by our first fall, the key is getting back up. That's what believers do, we help each other back up. What do you need help getting up from right now?

NEXT STEPS

No matter where you are in your walk with Jesus, there is a next step. Discuss the next steps below. Why is each important? Which of the next steps below should be yours?

- If you are following Jesus, have you taken the step of baptism? If you haven't, what's holding you back?
- If you are following Jesus, are you giving financially? If you're not, determine what percentage you can start with?
- If you are following Jesus, are you serving? If you're not, where can you begin serving?
- If you are following Jesus, who are you inviting into community with you? If you're not, who can you invite?
- If you're following Jesus, how are you sharing the gospel with others? If you're not, who and how can you share the gospel this week?

PRAY

Pray for everyone in the group to come to a greater understanding of God — and how he desires for us to live by faith in Christ, trusting his cleansing work, not ours.

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