

Sunday, July 6, 2025 AM
AUTHENTIC FAITH: Walking and Talking? 4
Mike Teel, Pastor

FOCAL PASSAGE

I John 1:5-10

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

I John 2:1-6

¹ 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. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. ³ We know that we have come to know Him if we keep His commands. ⁴ Whoever says, “I know Him,” but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵ But if anyone obeys His word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in Him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did.

THREE WAYS TO DEAL WITH OUR SINS:

WE CAN TRY TO COVER OUR SINS

I John 1:5

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

1. CONSIDER THE PROCESS OF SALVATION

—When we were saved, God called us out of darkness into His light.

I Peter 2:9

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

—We become children of light.

I Thessalonians 5:5

⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

—Those who do wrong (sin) hate light.

John 3:19-21

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

—If we are walking in the light, the darkness has to go.

—If we are holding to sin, then light goes.

2. HOW DO CHRISTIANS TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS?

—There are a number of expressions but all point to one method – by telling lies!

A. First, we tell lies to others.

B. We begin to lie to ourselves.

C. Attempt to lie to God.

—When we look at the human heart through the Holy Spirit's inspiration, we see how devastating and corrupt the heart is.

Believers lie about . . .

—Their **FELLOWSHIP**: I John 1:6

⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

—About our **NATURE**: I John 1:8

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

—And about our **ACTIONS**: I John 1:10

¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

—Sin has a deadly way of spreading, doesn't it?

3. WHAT'S LOST IN THIS DECEPTION

—There are several things we lose at this point in our Christian life

- A. We lose our ability to be honest.
- B. We lose our connection to the Word.
- C. We lose our fellowship.
- D. Bottom line cost.

—One problem with dishonesty is that just keeping a record of our lies and pretense becomes a full-time job.

—The person is no longer a liar because he tells lies; he now tells lies because he is a liar.

Proverbs 28:13

^{13a} ***“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper;”***

—David attempted to cover his sins, and it cost him his health (**Psalms 32:3-4**), his joy (**Psalms 51**), his family, and almost his kingdom.

—If we want to enjoy the life that is real, we must never cover our sins. What should we do?

WE CAN _____ OUR SINS

I John 2:1-2

¹ ***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.*** ² ***He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.***

1. TWO _____ ONLY JESUS CAN PERFORM

A. What is the _____ sacrifice?

—The King James Version uses the word ***“Propitiation.”***

—Dictionary definitions: ***“Propitiation means to appease someone who is angry.”***

—God is angry at sin – because He is infinitely HOLY.

—The word propitiation does not mean the ***appeasing of an angry God*** but ***satisfying of God’s holy law!***

—The law demanded that the penalty of sin (death) be paid by a sacrifice satisfying Holiness.

B. How can we have both _____ and _____?

—How can a holy God uphold His own justice and still forgive sinners?

—The answer is in the sacrifice of Jesus (Propitiation / Atoning Sacrifice).

—God was **JUST** in that He punished sin, but He is also **LOVING** in that He offers free forgiveness through what Jesus did at Calvary.

2. THE SECOND MINISTRY HE PERFORMS IS THAT OF THE _____

I John 2:1d

...^{1d} *we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.*

A. THE _____

—Christ was the **Atoning Sacrifice** for the sins of the whole world, but He is **Advocate** only for believers.

—It literally means, “**one called alongside.**” *When a man was summoned to court, he took an advocate (lawyer) with him to stand at his side and plead his case.*

—In Heaven He is representing us before God’s throne – As our **High Priest**, He sympathizes with our weaknesses and temptations and gives us grace.

—When we are guilty of sin and take responsibility for it (confess), our Advocate, Jesus, stands with us before the throne of God as a testimony to the forgiveness that is provided by Jesus’ sacrificial shedding of His blood to satisfy the penalty for forgiveness.

B. WHY _____?

I John 1:9a

^{9a} *“If we confess our sins,”*

—To confess sins means much more than simply to admit them, it is about accountability.

—The word “confess” actually means “**to say the same thing (about).**”

—To confess sin, then, means “**to say the same thing about it that God says about it.**”

—True confession is naming sin – calling it by name what God calls it: envy, hatred, unforgiveness, lust, lying, deceit, or whatever it may be.

—It is more than admitting sin – it means judging sin and facing it squarely.

—Sin is serious, and Satan wants us to ignore it as if it didn’t really matter!

C. _____ HAS TWO SIDES TO IT . . .

—The two sides of cleansing are the judicial and personal sides.

—The blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross, delivers us from the guilt of sin and gives us a right standing (justification) before God.

—God is able to forgive because Jesus' death has satisfied God's Holy Law.

—God is also interested in cleansing a sinner inwardly.

—David prayed, **“Create in me a clean heart, O God.” Psalm 51:10**

—When our confession is sincere, God does a cleansing work in our heart by His Spirit and through His Word.

I John 1:9

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

John 15:3

³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

—When should we confess our sin? Immediately when we discover it!

Proverbs 28:13

¹³ He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

—By walking in the light, we are able to see the “dirt” in our lives and deal with it immediately.

This leads to a third way to deal with sins:

We can try to cover them, we can confess them, or . . .

WE CAN _____ OUR SINS

LIVE IT OUT

—How is sin battling for control of your life?

—How are you allowing yourself to believe in a lie?

—How are you attempting to convince others you are okay spiritually?

—What have you allowed yourself to see that is demanding the long look?

—How has God indicated to you to deal with sin in your life?

—Will you take the first step by taking ownership of your own sin?