

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: Living Proof - How Real Faith Shows Up In Real Life. 1-2-3 John.

Message 3: Walking In The Light

Speaker: Kevin Fricker - Senior Associate Pastor

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Connect (25min)

1. May Day

- Share a *Battle* and a *Blessing* from your life this past week.
- What is one opportunity or experience you are looking forward to in the month of May?

2. Shine a Light on It - What's something you thought was *clean*...until better light proved otherwise? *eg. dusty furniture, dental health, teenager's bedroom...*

3. Read [Psalm 51:1-12](#) and Open in Prayer together.

Invite the Holy Spirit to teach, convict, and encourage as you open God's Word together.

Message Discussion (50min)

1. The BIG Idea

- Open your Bibles to [1 John 1:5-10](#) and read together.
- *"Real faith is not pretending perfection, but walking in the light through honest confession and the grace of Jesus."*
- How were you encouraged, challenged or changed by Sunday's Scripture and message?

2. God Is Light (v. 5)

- What does (the author) John mean when he says *God is Light*?
- Why does it matter that John says *God IS Light*, not merely that He has light?
- How does a bigger view of *God's Holiness* change the way we see sin?
- Do you tend to think of *God's Holiness* as comforting or intimidating? Why?

3. The First Lie: Lying to Others (vv. 6-7)

- *"If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in darkness..."*
- What do you think John means by going on living in spiritual darkness?
- How is walking in darkness different from a believer struggling or stumbling with sin?
- What does it look like practically to *live in the light* in everyday life?
- Where can hypocrisy subtly creep into church life?
(Hint: Image management, Religious performance, Hidden compromise)

4. The Second Lie: Lying to Yourself (v.8)

- Why are we often gentler with our own sin than others' sin?
- Which line hit you hardest:
 - *"We grade our sin on a curve."* (Comparing ourselves to others instead of Christ)
 - *"Our sin gets explained. Theirs gets condemned."*
 - *"Self deception is standing far enough from the mirror to say, 'I look great from back here.'"*
- Do you ever drift toward feeling *"I'm doing pretty well spiritually"* rather than depending on grace?

5. The Third Lie: Calling God a Liar (v.10)

- Why is denying sin so serious?
- How can spiritual pride show up in religious people?

6. The Hope of Confession (v.9)

- Read verse 9 again. What is the difference between guilt, shame, and confession?
- Why is it good news that God is both faithful and just to forgive?
- What does it mean that Jesus doesn't just forgive — He cleanses?
- How has confession been life-giving for you?
- What keeps people from stepping into the light?

7. Heart Level Application

- Which of these do you most need this week? Consider and share why.
 - Let God expose something I've been hiding
 - Stop minimizing a pattern of sin
 - Receive forgiveness I've struggled to believe
 - Walk in deeper honesty with another believer
- Which is harder for you: admitting sin, receiving forgiveness, or living honestly with others?

8. Practice this Week

- Confess something to God specifically, not vaguely.
- Share honestly with a trusted believer.
- Read [Psalm 32](#), [Psalm 51](#), or [Psalm 103](#) during the week.
- Ask: Where is Jesus inviting me out of hiding?

Prayer (15min)

>> Set aside 15min to Pray together as a group. Break into groups of 3-4 people to enhance this time.

- **Choose and share one of these *Prayer Prompts* for yourself and pray for one another.**
 - > *Courage to walk in the light* > Freedom from shame
 - > Honest confession Deeper love for Jesus and His cleansing grace
- **Who is one other person in your life who we can pray for? Share their name & need; then pray.**
 - > *Salvation, Healing, Protection, Provision...*

May

>> **Series Challenge:** Read or Listen through the entire *Letter of 1 John* in one sitting. 15min.

>> **Share Announcements** and confirm plans for your Life Group this month.