

Deep Practice Discipleship Guide

Text: 1 John 2:1–6

Title: Walking in the Light

1. Opening Reflection & Accountability

- Begin by asking: *"How did you do last week with your deep practice commitment?"*
 - Encourage honesty — this is not about perfection but growth.
 - Celebrate progress and reflect on challenges. Remind the group that deep practice is about intentional effort and learning from both successes and mistakes.
-

2. Sermon Summary

Big Idea:

Because Jesus is both our Advocate and Atoning Sacrifice, we live in a continual cycle of trusting Him, knowing Him, and abiding in Him — which produces obedience, love, and a life that looks more and more like His.

Main Flow:

1. The Goal – Do Not Sin (v.1a)

- John's pastoral aim is holiness, not legalistic perfectionism.
- Like a good coach or teacher, God calls us upward toward maturity.

2. The Provision – Jesus Our Advocate & Atoning Sacrifice (vv.1b–2)

- **Advocate (Paraclete):** One who stands alongside us; our confidence rests in *who He is*, not our defense.
- **Atoning Sacrifice (Hilasmos):** Jesus is both the means and the place of reconciliation with God.
- His sacrifice is for the sins of the whole world.

3. The Response – Belief, Knowing, Abiding (vv.3–5a)

- To “know” Jesus is to experience Him relationally.
- Belief and knowing reinforce one another in a cycle of abiding.

4. The Evidence – Obedience & Love (vv.5b–6)

- Obedience flows from abiding; love makes it a joy.
 - We are called to “walk as He walked” — imitating Jesus’ life of love, service, forgiveness, and obedience.
-

3. Discussion Questions (Bloom’s Taxonomy)

Remembering:

1. What two titles does John give Jesus in verses 1–2?
2. What does John say is the goal for believers in verse 1?

Understanding:

3. In your own words, what does it mean for Jesus to be our Advocate?
4. How would you describe the “belief–knowing–abiding” loop to someone new in faith?

Applying:

5. What is one area where you could step more fully into the belief–knowing cycle this week?
6. How might “walking as Jesus walked” affect your decisions in daily life?

Analyzing:

7. How do belief, knowing, and abiding build on one another in your own spiritual life?
8. What is the relationship between love and obedience in this passage?

Evaluating:

9. Which part of your spiritual walk — belief, knowing, or abiding — is currently strongest? Which is weakest?
10. How can the truth that Jesus is your Advocate change how you handle failure or sin?

Creating:

11. Create your own “loop” statement for your relationship with Jesus, similar to the friendship loop illustration.
 12. Design one daily rhythm this week that reinforces abiding in Him.
-

4. Scripture Storying Exercise

Story Passage: John 15:1–10 – The Vine and the Branches

- Read the passage aloud.
- Have one person retell the story from memory.
- Group fills in missing details together.
- Discuss how abiding in Christ from John 15 relates to walking in the light in 1 John 2:1–6.

Story Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to “abide” in Christ according to this story?
2. What are the results of abiding, and what happens when we don’t?
3. How is obedience tied to abiding in both John 15 and 1 John 2?

5. Deep Practice Challenge

If you don’t have some other area that you are working on, consider one of the following areas for your deep practice in the coming week.

1. **Step into the Loop:** Identify one area where you will intentionally trust Jesus (belief) and one way you will seek to know Him more deeply (knowing).
2. **Obey in Love:** Actively do one specific, sacrificial act of love toward someone in your life this week.
3. **Walk as He Walked:** Before making a decision, pause and ask, “*What would obedience to the Father look like here?*” — then follow through.

Write down what you will be working on and share it with the group for encouragement and accountability.