

Monday, September 8, 2025

## 5-Day Devotional: Walking in the Light

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### 1 John 1:5-10

- Based on the sermon manuscript from 1 John 1:5-10, this devotional explores God's nature as light, our human condition, our choices in response, and the assurance of forgiveness through Christ. Each day builds on the previous, encouraging honest reflection and deeper fellowship with God.

### Day 1: God Is Light – Understanding His Holy Nature

#### - *Devotional Summary:*

- The sermon begins by proclaiming the core message from Jesus: God is light, with no darkness in Him at all. Light symbolizes God's purity, holiness, truth, and life-giving essence. Throughout Scripture, God is depicted as the source of all goodness, revealing hidden things and providing healing. This contrasts with human tendencies to dim the light to avoid exposure. John clarifies this truth against false teachings, emphasizing that God is completely separate from sin and evil. As we reflect on God's unapproachable holiness, we're invited to see Him as the standard of perfection, drawing us out of darkness into His radiant presence.

#### - *Scripture to Read and Study:*

- 1 John 1:5 – "This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (Study related verses: Psalm 36:9; John 8:12; 1 Timothy 6:15-16.)

#### - *Quote from the Sermon:*

- "God is light. Light is not God. But God is Light!! ... There isn't even an ounce of darkness in him!"

#### - *Discussion Questions:*

- How does viewing God as pure light change your understanding of His holiness and separation from sin?

- In what ways have you experienced God's light as revealing or healing in your life?
- Why do people try to "dim the light" of God's truth, and how can we resist that?
- *Takeaways*
  - Recognize God as the ultimate source of truth and life, with no compromise in His nature.
  - Allow God's light to expose areas of your life needing His healing presence.
  - Commit to seeking God's holiness as the standard for your daily decisions.
- *Closing Prayer:*
  - Heavenly Father, You are pure light, holy and unchanging. Reveal Your truth to me today, exposing any darkness in my heart. Help me embrace Your holiness and walk in Your radiant presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Day 2: Our Sinful State – Recognizing the Darkness Within**

- *Devotional Summary:*
  - While God is perfect light, humanity is marked by darkness due to sin. The sermon highlights how all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory, with no mixture of light in us apart from Him. This challenges ancient and modern false teachings like Gnosticism, which claim a "divine spark" within us, suggesting we can achieve godliness on our own. Instead, sin separates us from God, and any barrier in our relationship is our fault, not His. John warns against self-deception, urging us to acknowledge our need for God's light to illuminate our true condition and lead us to true fellowship.
- *Scripture to Read and Study:*
  - 1 John 1:6 – "If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." (Study related verses: Romans 3:23; Isaiah 6:3; Ephesians 5:13.)
- *Quote from the Sermon:*
  - "We are affected by darkness. Sin has separated us from this holy God. ... There is a God, and you are not him. God is light. He is holy. He is set apart and different."

- *Discussion Questions:*

- How does the idea of a "divine spark" in modern teachings (like New Age or self-help) contradict the biblical view of our sinful state?
- In what areas of your life do you see "mixture of darkness" that separates you from God?
- Why is it important to admit that any brokenness in our relationship with God is our fault?

- *Takeaways:*

- Honestly assess your sinful nature without excusing it, as true fellowship begins with truth.
- Reject false ideas that elevate self over God's holiness.
- Seek God's revelation to uncover hidden sins and draw closer to Him.

- *Closing Prayer:*

- Lord, I confess my darkness and separation from You due to sin. Help me reject lies that say I can save myself. Illuminate my heart with Your truth, and draw me into Your holy light. Amen.

## **Day 3: Living a Lie – The Danger of Denying Sin**

- *Devotional Summary:*

- One response to our sinful state is to live a lie by denying or redefining sin. The sermon describes how people claim no sin, deceive themselves, or make God a liar by saying they've not sinned. This includes rationalizing wrongs—like calling greed ambition or lust love—or believing we're "good enough" for heaven. Such denial leads to self-deception and blocks true fellowship. John contrasts this with the truth that even one failure makes us guilty under God's law. By exposing these lies, we're challenged to stop justifying sin and instead confront it honestly in God's light.

- *Scripture to Read and Study:*

- 1 John 1:8,10 – "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ... If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." (Study related verses: James 2:10; Isaiah 5:20.)

- *Quote from the Sermon:*

- "One of the ways we try to respond to the broken relationship between God and man... we try to live a lie. We try to say, I don't sin. I don't walk in darkness. ... We are lying to ourselves."

- *Discussion Questions:*

- How have you seen people (or yourself) redefine sin to make it seem acceptable?
- What are the consequences of denying sin, according to the sermon?
- How does denying sin ultimately make God a liar?

- *Takeaways:*

- Examine daily for areas where you're living a lie by justifying or hiding sin.
- Align your view of right and wrong with God's standards, not cultural redefinitions.
- Choose honesty over self-deception to open the door to genuine healing.

- *Closing Prayer:*

- Father, forgive me for the times I've denied or redefined my sin. Help me stop living lies and confront my failings in Your light. Give me courage to be honest with You and others. In Christ's name, Amen.

## **Day 4: Walking in Truth – The Power of Confession**

- *Devotional Summary:*

- The alternative to lying is walking in truth through confession. The sermon explains that confessing sin means agreeing with God about its seriousness—aligning our view with His and putting sin to death. Light illuminates and heals, exposing our nakedness before God but also cleansing us. True confession leads to contrition, not justification, and fosters deep fellowship with God and others. John encourages us to run to the light, as hiding sin only hinders freedom. By practicing confession, we experience the indescribable liberty of authentic living in God's presence.

- *Scripture to Read and Study:*

- 1 John 1:9 – "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (Study related verses: Psalm 32:5; Proverbs 28:13.)
- *Quote from the Sermon:*
  - "To confess your sins is to agree with God that sin separates. That what you are doing is sin and should be put to death. It is an alignment with God's standards of living!! ... The freedom that you experience when you live authentically before God and others is indescribable."
- *Discussion Questions:*
  - What does it mean to "confess" as "agreeing with God" about sin?
  - How has confession brought freedom or deeper relationships in your life?
  - Why is confession essential for true fellowship with God and others?
- *Takeaways:*
  - Make confession a daily habit, using 1 John 1:9 as a promise of forgiveness.
  - Pursue vulnerability in safe relationships to experience collective cleansing.
  - Embrace exposure in God's light as the path to healing and authenticity.
- *Closing Prayer:*
  - Dear God, I confess my sins to You, agreeing they separate me from Your holiness. Cleanse me and align my life with Your standards. Grant me freedom in Your light and true fellowship with others. Amen.

## **Day 5: His Assurance – Cleansing and True Fellowship**

- *Devotional Summary:*
  - When we walk in the light through confession, God assures us of cleansing and fellowship. The sermon assures that Jesus' blood cleanses us from all sin, not because we're perfect, but positionally through His sacrifice. Salvation is free to us but cost Jesus everything—it's not earned by secret knowledge but by grace. This leads to real joy, vertical fellowship with God, and horizontal bonds with others. The gospel progression—confrontation, contrition, confession, comfort—invites us to rest in Christ's work, shine His light, and experience freedom from darkness.

- *Scripture to Read and Study:*
  - 1 John 1:7 – "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 cleanses us from all sin." (Study related verses: Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 5:14-16.)
- *Quote from the Sermon:*
  - "The price for walking in the light cost Jesus his life so that you and I can be freely forgiven."
- *Discussion Questions and Takeaways:*
  - How does Jesus' sacrifice provide assurance of cleansing, even when we stumble?
  - What does true fellowship look like in your relationships with God and others?
  - How can you "shine the light" of Christ in your daily life?
- *Takeaways:*
  - Rest in the comfort that God's light casts out all darkness through Christ.
  - Examine your walk regularly and live authentically to experience real joy.
  - Share God's light with others, pointing them to Him.
- *Closing Prayer:*
  - Lord Jesus, thank You for Your blood that cleanses me. Help me walk in Your light, experiencing true fellowship and forgiveness. May I shine Your truth to others, free from darkness. Amen.