



Turn Off Dark Mode

Letters from John // Week 1

Pastor Tim Moore

Overview

Today we began our new series, Letters from John. We will be spending five weeks going through the book of 1 John, a letter written to early churches by the John who wrote the Gospel of John. Spending time taking a deep dive into one book of the Bible will help us continue to develop a Biblical worldview. And John, as Jesus' closest friend, is going to reveal to us the heart of Jesus.

Opening Conversation

What are your plans for the summer? How can we as a circle stay connected?

Scripture & Discussion

Read 1 John 1:1-4, John 1:1-2

- What similarities do you see between these two scriptures?
- Why do you think John was so concerned that the churches that would read his letter would believe his testimony about Jesus?

Read 1 John 1:5-10

- What is the difference between fellowship and relationship? Pastor Tim said you can have a relationship with someone, but not fellowship. How does this apply to our relationships with others? With God?
- What builds fellowship? What damages it? What are characteristics of fellowship with God?

Pastor Tim also said the reason there's darkness in our world is because there is darkness inside us.

- How do you see that darkness in our world? How do we become aware of the darkness in us?
- Why does walking in darkness affect our fellowship with God? What are subtle ways we can begin to drift away from God? What are the dangers of being a Christ follower in principle but not in practice?

Read 1 John 1:9

- Is it possible to become blind to your own sin? What can we do to prevent that from happening?
- Why is it important to name our sin when we confess it to God and ask for his forgiveness? What happens in your heart when you come to God in repentance? What is the promise in this verse? How does that make you feel?

Application

Jesus took all of our sins to the cross, not just the ones we committed before we met him. He took all those sins and all the sins we commit now and in the future. This week, let's do two things. First, commit to read one chapter of 1 John a day (there are five chapters). Highlight the verses that stand out to you. And second, take time in the evening to review your day and ask God to show you how you have sinned in thought, word, or deed. Name it and confess it. Remember, "he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us." His forgiveness and love will flood your heart with his light and love.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, it's so easy to see where others have failed but not myself. I know the battle inside of me to do the right thing, but I know I fail so often. I don't want to drift away from you, to lose fellowship with you, so please shine your light on me and reveal those things I need to confess to you. I know that when I do this, you will forgive, restore, and heal me. I love you Jesus. Thank you for taking all of my sins to the cross. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.

Upcoming Events:

- May 20 – Worship Night, 7pm
- June 3 – First Wednesday Prayer, 7:30am
- June 7 – Welcome to the X, 10:45am

Resources:

- To request prayer: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/13150>
- To meet with a Pastor: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/534644>
- Financial Assistance, Sobriety Resources, grief support, and more: <https://thex.church/care/>

X Church Podcast: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rUS49luWYwojA6eKIA_VuAO592ZYQgd