



Day 1

Sermon Sentence: The bottom line of the Gospel is, that we are all sinners and our sins have cost us so much, we need Jesus.

1 John 1:1-4

It's clear that John was addressing believers when he wrote the book of 1 John. The letter starts out by qualifying the disciples as being the ones who beheld the truth of Christ and even touched Him with their own hands and thus the Gospel that the disciples proclaimed was pure having been received directly from the source, Jesus Christ. The Church was, even at this early stage, being influenced by false teachers and apostate practices and John is attempting to rebuke these influences and put the Church back on track by giving the true Gospel.

- What was John reacting to that made it so important to write 1 John?
- Why did John want to establish the authenticity of the disciples and the purity of their teachings first?
- John wanted to restore the Gospel, in hopes that they would return to a state of what?
- John says that "We are writing these things so that our (your) joy may be complete.", What is meant by this statement?



Day 2

Sermon Sentence: The bottom line of the Gospel is, that we are all sinners and our sins have cost us so much, we need Jesus.

1 John 1:5-6

John proclaims that God is light. If we really think about the deeper meaning of this we can start to understand that God is the source of many things. If God is light, and the Bible confirms this, of course He can not contain anything dark because His very nature is light. He literally cancels out darkness by His nature. This same thought can be continued about many other characteristics of God such as Love, Justice and Holiness. If we truly make an effort to understand the true nature of God, it will cancel out many of the things that we try to make ourselves believe concerning God and any compromises we seek to make concerning the truth contained in scripture because God's unchangeable nature tells us we are wrong.

- John starts to address one issue behind the reason for writing 1 John, it can be inferred by verse six. What is it?
- When he describes “walking in darkness” what does John mean?
- Can you see how, if we are in this state, we can not be in fellowship with God?

John 14:6

- We have to connect the dots but if we are “walking in darkness” and “do not practice the truth”, who are we neglecting?



Day 3

Sermon Sentence: The bottom line of the Gospel is, that we are all sinners and our sins have cost us so much, we need Jesus.

1 John 1:7-8

Now John offers the counter to verse six as us actually walking in the light. When we walk in the light we are in fellowship with each other and with the Lord and therefore we can also partake in His forgiving grace made possible by the literal shed blood of Jesus. In contrast to verse six we are now in the light as well and have shed off the darkness of walking outside the truth and have surrendered to the true Gospel.

- What is being described by the transition from walking in darkness to walking in the light of the truth?
- Again verse eight seems to imply a response to a very specific thing going on in the Church. What is it?
- Why is this a huge stumbling block to a person being saved?
- If the “truth is not in us”, what is really being said here?



Day 4

Sermon Sentence: The bottom line of the Gospel is, that we are all sinners and our sins have cost us so much, we need Jesus.

1 John 1:9-10

This should not have been any real revelation to believers. This was not a new teaching but the very basis of Christianity. Repentance has always been the first step in the salvation of any new believer. You can't be saved if you don't believe you have anything to be saved from. New teachings (but really the same old lie) had been introduced into the Church convincing believers that repentance was no longer needed as a first step to receiving forgiveness. Sin was being redefined and because of this people were not identifying their sin and repenting therefore remaining in darkness, not desiring to shed off the darkness and become children of the light.

- How do you think that John must have felt having to reintroduce this bedrock principle of Christianity?
- What happens when Churches stop preaching sin and the need for repentance?
- Is this becoming commonplace in the Church today?
- Why has a prosperity gospel largely replaced the Gospel in many churches today?
- How does preaching a bloodless or crossless gospel such as a prosperity gospel affect reaching the lost?



Day 5

Sermon Sentence: The bottom line of the Gospel is, that we are all sinners and our sins have cost us so much, we need Jesus.

More on fellowship...

Psalm 32:1-5

As believers we can not “cover” our own sins. When we attempt to do this we only fool ourselves and fall out of fellowship with the Lord. David speaks of the blessedness of the person whose sins the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit there is no deceit. He is speaking to the honest brokenheartedness of a sinner and the confession of sins vs. the person who tries to hide their sins from God and pay for them themselves. If we do not realize that the price **Jesus** paid for **OUR** sins was **His blood and His life and that God loved us enough to do this because we were condemned, we will never reach this state of brokenheartedness. True repentance is not only deciding you are a sinner, but also moving away from that sin into God’s will. We are only fooling ourselves if we believe that we can fellowship with the Lord while harboring sin. If we think that, we missed the point of what Jesus did for us on the cross and do not truly understand the seriousness of our sin and how it separates us from God!**

- Can you see what David was pointing out about his fellowship with the Lord?
- How did David describe his life while he was trying to hide his sin?
- What did David do to return to fellowship?
- Was David not saved during verses three and four?
- John and David’s teachings were concerning the walk of a believer and fellowship (sanctification). How does this compare or contrast the gift of salvation?