



Walking and Talking

1 John 1:5—2:6

Big Idea for the Series: Ten weeks of biblical truth designed to show the evidence the Apostle John points to revealing true, saving faith. John said, “I write these things to you so you may know you have eternal life.”

The Bottom Line: Real life and joy are found in The Light.

Introduction:

Every form of life has its enemies. Insects have birds; Birds have cats.

The believer’s enemy is sin and darkness.

- What is sin? *Giving myself to anything outside of God’s good will, plan, and desire for me.*
- Where does sin come from? *The Enemy against us, the world around us, and the selfishness within us.*

The Apostle John presents an opportunity that has been and will be available from eternity to eternity – come, walk in the light.

Truth:

Read 1 John 1:5-2:6.

Scripture provides three nouns (love, spirit, light) to describe God; all else are adjectives.

Light represents purity, truth, and integrity. John makes the point that fellowship with light *is* fellowship with God.

John repeatedly uses the term, “walk,” to describe the position in which we find ourselves living (e.g. walk in darkness vs. walk in light). Living in sin and walking in darkness are interchangeable ideas.

Fortunately, Jesus is the propitiation for all and the Advocate for believers.

Unfortunately, though God may spare us the eternal consequences of our sin, He usually does *not* spare us the temporal consequences of our sin.

The Apostle John teaches three ways in which the Christian can respond to personal sin:

1. Christians can try to cover their sins.
2. Christians can confess their sins.
3. Christians can conquer their sins.

In our attempt to cover up our sin, we lie to ourselves, others, and even God. Interestingly enough, this not only makes us a liar, but also makes God a liar (1 John 1:10).

Confession means “to agree with” or “to say the same thing about.” When Christians confess their sin, it is not simply admitting, but seeing it the way God sees it.

Conquering sin begins with honesty and sincerity. This is what it means to walk in the light.

Application & Conclusion:

Four means by which we can walk in the light:

- Wrestle – Confess that there is a struggle.
- Rest – Acknowledge your Advocate.
- Rely – Depend on the Spirit.
- Reflect – Walk out your new life in Christ.

Next Steps:

- Memorize Ephesians 5:13-16.
- Do a biblical word study on “light” this week online through Blue Letter Bible.
- For those wrestling through habitual sins, check out our Biblical Counseling ministry at www.southbaychurchli.org/counseling.