**Walking in the Light**

Based on [1 John 1](http://biblia.com/books/esv/1Jn1.1)

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Lenten Midweek Service 1

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First John is a profound and richly composed letter written by John the apostle. He writes, not just as a teacher, or as a leader of the church. **John writes and speaks to the church as a loving Father speaks to children.** He even calls them “my little children” and encourages them toward maturity in faith and teaches them how faithful children of God walk or “live” in the world. In the first chapter, he encourages them to walk in the light.

John writes, “**That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us…”**

Jesus Christ is the source of all things. He was in the beginning with God. Through Him all things were made and nothing was made without Him. **And when God said, let there be light, He shone in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome Him. Through the Son, we see things as they really are.** Without him, there is no life or light, only distortion and confusion, darkness and death. But with him we have light and life. We see things as they really are as we walk in the daylight of truth.

In Christ, we have fellowship with the Father, and with one another. There can be no fellowship in darkness, in false doctrine, in disagreement and disputing over the law and the sound words of Christ. **Without the light of Christ, darkness keeps a foothold, and pulls us away from light.** Darkness is ignorance of truth, blindness to truth. Ignorance leads to suspicion, suspicion to fear, fear to contempt, and contempt to enmity—and there is no enmity in God. But when we know the truth, and live in the truth, we love one another and our joy is complete, because He is complete.

John writes, “**God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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.”**

Light, truth, and fellowship, these all agree. Fellowship with God is fellowship in the light, and fellowship in truth is fellowship among his children. His children are of the light and walk in the light. And the light is the Son, Jesus Christ. **The life and light of the world, Jesus Christ, came into the world and he walked in the light. He openly displayed himself to be the Son of God in human flesh.** And all he is, all he taught, and all he did was plain for all to see. He came to his own, but his own did not know him, and brought him into their darkness. He was arrested put on trial in secret. But the light shines even under a basket. And the light said, “**I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret**.” (John 18:19-20).

And John was one who heard Him, and saw him, touched him, and walked with him. John was an apostle. He was with the light on the mountain and saw his glory revealed. **He was with the light, when the light was arrested in the dark and led away.** And he stood before the light as the light was being crucified for the sins of the world. And John testifies in his letter, “**that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, *so that you too may have fellowship with us*, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ**” (1 John 1:3-4).

Fellowship with the Son is fellowship with the Father; and fellowship with the Son is fellowship with one another. The Son says, “**Where two or three are gathered in my Name, there I am among them.**” The Light says, “**Whoever sees me sees the father**”, the Truth says, “You believe me because you see me, blessed are those who have not seen and have yet believed.”

John saw with his eyes, and his testimony is true. And we see what he has seen by faith in the testimony of what he saw, what he touched, what he heard from the Word of life. **Because of what we have heard from him, we believe.** And on account of what we believe, we walk in the light. And when we walk in the light, we confess our sin.

The light takes no part in darkness, but exposes all things to the light (Ephesians 5:11). **The light exposes the deeds of darkness. If we say we have no sin, we hide our deeds in the darkness and hide from God.** 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 God a liar, and His word is not in us. The Father says, all have sinned. The Son says, no one is righteous. The Spirit bears witness against our flesh. If we deny our sin, we make God our enemy and hide from the light lest our deeds should be exposed.

But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **If we confess our sins, we walk in the light without fear, the blood of Christ covers us.** Those who keep silent rot away. Their sin accuses them all day long. They hide from the eye of the Lord and run from his counsel. But **He remains faithful and His judgments are just. He desires not the death of the sinner. He counts no iniquity against a penitent heart.**

Those who confess their sins walk blamelessly. Those who repent of their sins will have the peace of God in their heart. **God is their hiding place, the light is their shade, his blood is their life, his truth is their way.** The sanctuary of the living God is fellowship with His Son. And He has fellowship with us, because his Word is in us. The Word that cleaves the darkness has brought us out of darkness into His marvelous light.