

Small Group Discussion Guide

Based on 1 John 1:1–10 | Sermon by Pastor Keith Biddle

Theme: Through Jesus, we have eternal life, joyful fellowship, the light of God, and forgiveness of sins.

Opener

- What's something you've touched or experienced that left you amazed?
- Can you recall a time when you were part of a joyful, authentic community? What made it so?

Section 1: Eternal Life through Jesus (1 John 1:1–2)

Read: 1 John 1:1–2

Discussion Questions

1. Why does John emphasize that he and the other disciples *heard, saw, looked at closely, and touched* Jesus?
2. How does John's eyewitness testimony refute the Gnostic teaching of his time?
3. What does John mean by saying Jesus is "*the Word of Life*" and "*the Eternal Life*"?

Application Questions

1. Have you lost your sense of wonder at the promise of eternal life through Jesus?
2. In what ways can you more boldly share the message of eternal life this week?
3. How does your view of Jesus change when you think of Him not just as Savior but as *Eternal Life itself*?

Section 2: Joyful Fellowship with God and Other Believers (1 John 1:3–4)

Read: 1 John 1:3–4

Discussion Questions

1. What is *koinonia* (fellowship), and how does John describe its purpose?
2. How does true fellowship with God lead to joy in the lives of believers?
3. What does John's joy in sharing the message teach us about our role as disciples?

Application Questions

1. Are you experiencing joy in your relationship with God and other believers? Why or why not?
2. Is there anyone in your life with whom you need to restore or deepen fellowship?
3. How can you share in someone else's joy—or help lift them up—this week?

Section 3: Walking in the Light of God (1 John 1:5–7)

Read: 1 John 1:5–7

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean that "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all"?

2. What is the danger of claiming fellowship with God while walking in darkness?
3. How does walking in the light lead to deeper fellowship among believers?

Application Questions

1. Are there areas of your life you've kept in darkness instead of bringing into God's light?
2. What spiritual habits can help you walk more consistently in the light of God's truth?
3. How can you serve someone this week as part of your "walking in the light"?

Section 4: Forgiveness of Sins through Confession (1 John 1:8–10)

Read: 1 John 1:8–10

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it dangerous to say we have no sin?
2. What does it mean to *confess* our sins—to "say the same" as God says?
3. How does verse 9 bring hope to struggling believers?

Application Questions

1. What sin do you need to confess to God today?
2. How can confession become a regular rhythm in your life?
3. What does it mean to you personally that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from every sin?

Closing Reflection

1. Which of the four truths (eternal life, fellowship, light, forgiveness) do you need to lean into most right now?
2. What is one action you will take this week in response to today's passage?
3. How can this group support you in living that out?

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