

Date: March 3, 2019

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-4

Series: Living in the Light

What is truth and how do we live in light of that truth? What does it mean for a follower of Jesus to “walk in the light?” Let’s explore together, “how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him,” (1 John 4:9) and experience living in the light.



Romans Overview:

Author and Date: John the Apostle, one of the original 12 disciples and known as the “Apostle of Love.”

Written between 60-90 A.D.

First readers and their location: Christians in Ephesus and Asia Minor (modern day Turkey).

Ephesus the city: Ephesus had a population of around 300,00, was a leading trade centre in the Roman Empire, and was the centre of worship for the pagan goddess Diana.

Why was it written?: 1 John was written primarily to combat false teaching that had shown up in the church. False teachers were denying that Jesus had a real physical body and was fully human. They were also denying that Jesus was the Messiah. These teachings lead to believers minimizing the seriousness of sin. John wrote to correct these lies.

Open-up

In your experience, what does enjoying your relationship with God look like? In your life? In others’ lives? (Use I statements)



Into the Bible—**Ask “What does it Say?”**

Read: 1 John 1:1-4

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)

Knowing that false teachers in the church were denying the physical humanity of Jesus and the truth that he was the Messiah what is significant about how John opens this letter?

What evidence does John give that shows he actually knows Jesus?

Read John 1:1-14. How does this help clarify 1 John 1:1-4?



Into my life—**Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”**

Who does popular culture say that Jesus is? Why do you think having a proper concept of Christ is important for believers?

How can we as a community best express the fellowship mentioned in this passage? What would it look like to love one another in our everyday lives?

We live in a time when partnering with one another for the cause of Christ is widespread, does it matter what the organizations we partner with believe when deciding whether to work together? How would the letter from John influence your answer?

How will you be different today because of what you just read?

Other Application Questions:

Is there something to worship or thank God for?

Is there a promise to claim or a truth to believe?

Is there something I am convicted about that I need to work on?

Is there something or someone I need to pray for this week? (Be specific)

Is there any relationship I need to work on?



Into the World—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”

How do you need to grow in your understanding of Jesus in order to present a clear picture of him to the world? What steps will you take this year?

Prayer List:

My challenge for this week:

More Resources for personal and group use:

<https://www.precept.org/know-gods-word/>

A little about Westwood Church...

We believe that God changes lives!

That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



GATHER

Sunday mornings to celebrate and learn about God



GROUPS

Weekly meetings that go deeper in relationships with each other and God



GO

Serving in the church and community to present Jesus to the world