

# *The Johns*

## **The Epistles of John: 1 John 1**

### **1:1-4 – A SHARED Experience!**

Q: What is it that makes John's joy complete? FELLOWSHIP w/ OTHER BELIEVERS

Q: What does it mean to have "complete" joy?

> Being in right relationship with Jesus is *vital*, but I need to experience that relationship with other believers!

Q: What does John mean by "fellowship?" How is his definition different from what we usually consider fellowship?

### **1:5-10 – 5 "IF's"**

(1) v.6 – IF we claim fellowship with Jesus but walk in darkness  
THEN we lie & don't live by the truth



→ So ... you can't walk in darkness and have fellowship with Jesus ...  
Sin SEPARATES us from Jesus!

(2) V.7 – IF we walk in the light, as He is in the light ... THEN  
i. We have fellowship with ONE ANOTHER  
ii. The blood of Jesus PURIFIES US from all sin!



(3) V.8 – IF we claim to be without sin  
THEN we deceive ourselves and truth is not in us



(4) V.9 – IF we confess our sins  
THEN He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and  
Purify us from all unrighteousness



(5) V.10 – IF we claim we have not sinned  
THEN we make Him out to be a liar and His Word  
Has no place in our lives.



## How do YOU deal with sin?

### ❑ IGNORE IT. Act like it's okay!

- > How many people claim they're "right with God" when they clearly walk in darkness ... as if God has somehow given them a free pass to sin.
- > But ... sin is NOT OKAY ... Jesus doesn't ignore it!

### ❑ DILUTE IT. Act like sin is not sin!

- > We don't want to be "sinners" so we don't classify our questionable actions as "sin"
  - \* ill: you don't care if someone pees in the ocean ... but in the hot tub???
  - \* We should think of sin as a drop of HIV or E. Coli infected blood ... we'll do anything to avoid it!

### ❑ SUPPRESS IT. Pretend we don't sin!

- > Everyone sins ... we can't act like we're perfect.
- > Do you know anyone who acts like he or she doesn't sin? {I don't}
  - But ... does our attitude belie our belief? (i.e. What is our attitude toward sinners?)

### ❑ CONFESS IT.

- > We all have to deal with sin ... this is the only positive way to deal with it!!!

Based on our study ... what does it mean to walk "in the light?" "in darkness?"

### Walking in Darkness:

- \* Not just sinning (everyone does) ... but ignoring, diluting, suppressing our sin!

### Walking in the Light:

- \* It is not LIVING WITHOUT SIN (that's impossible)
- \* It is TRYING NOT TO SIN and TAKING IT TO JESUS when we do!

\*\* I'm relieved, because when I blow it, I feel like I'm walking in darkness. However, it's not what you do, but HOW you handle what you've done!

Consider King Saul and King David? Who walked in darkness? Who walked in the light?

Saul: Ignored (1 Sam. 13:11-12)  
Covered (1 Sam. 15:13)  
Diluted (1 Sam. 15:15)

David: Confessed (2 Sam. 12: 13-14, 20)