



Our hope is that you were challenged by Sunday's message and would desire to take the study a little deeper. Whether for personal study, family study, or for a Home Group gathering, use this study to go deeper.

Open

January 14, 2018

This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.—1 John 1:5

Joy and light are marvelous partners. We never equate the sensation of joy in the midst of darkness. John begins the body of his letter with the declaration that God is Light! Notice he does not say "God is THE light." That wouldn't necessarily be wrong, but it goes so much deeper. God has chosen to reveal Himself. He wants to be seen in all His glory, His righteousness, His kindness and goodness. Nothing hidden from His children. All of His attributes and personality, those things which will bring joyful reassurance, swarm us within endless, spiritual waves of light. But it also places on us an obligation. Joyful fellowship with God, who IS light, cannot be joined to the hidden deeds of darkness. Those evil and destructive deeds must be surrendered to the Light.

Main Point

Our Father welcomes the opportunity to redeem sin with the brightness of His character, but He will not permit it to remain in secret places.

Read

1 John 1:5-2:11; Psalm 30:1-5; John 3:19-21

Discuss

- How does Psalm 30:1-5 fit within these same truths of light and joy? Are there characteristics of one or both that make this so?
- When John says "God IS Light," how is that different from Him as the source of light? Can He be extinguished?
- Notice the constant hypocrisy of saying things that are proven false (vs. 1:6, 8, 10; 2:4, 9) because of contradictory actions. Why is hypocrisy so destructive, especially in our fellowship with God?
- In his gospel, John makes it clear why we men still dwell in the darkness. What are the reasons he gives?
- What is the old part of the commandment that John is giving? What about the commandment is new? What significance is the new commandment for us?
- How do you connect, if at all, true discipleship and total joy? Are they really compatible?



Sermon Notes



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