

Connect

Why do you think we all have an innate sense to have a heightened awareness in the dark? Perhaps some anxiety or even fear when nothing is probably there. Do you think the Lord uses this sense to speak the gospel to us? Why or why not? If so, how?

Verses - 1 John 1:5-2:2 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light, and there is absolutely no darkness in him. 6 If we say, “We have fellowship with him,” and yet we walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. 7 If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say, “We have not sinned,” we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father — Jesus Christ the righteous one.
2 He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. Read vv.5-7: John says "God is light." But, if we say we are friends with God but keep "walking in darkness" it means we are *hiding our sin*. Who are we hiding it from? Why is this a problem? (Ref v.7, “walk in the light”).

2. Read vv.8&10. Some people try to act like they are perfect and sinless. According to v.8, if we say "I have no sin," who are we fooling? According to verse 10, if we say "I haven't sinned," we are calling Jesus a liar. How should this motivate us to confess our sins?

3. Read Chapter 2:1-2: John writes this so we won't sin, but he knows we sometimes do. When we do sin, Jesus stands up as our "Advocate." What is he advocating for us in this role and according to the verse, to whom?

4. Verse 2 says Jesus is the "propitiation" (the sacrifice that pays the price). How many people did he pay the price for? Why is that important?

Share

Discuss 1:
Most believers are reluctant to share their sins with others for help and restoration. How can we encourage believers to find restoration and to start this process by sharing their sins and receiving counsel from each other? What do we call this kind of care at TBC? Where should it happen?

Discuss 2:
Pastor Takeshi used an analogy of toilet training a puppy. He notes that the important thing is not whether the puppy is fully trained yet, but that it is being trained and learning from its mistakes. How does the gospel “train” you?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.