

It's All About Jesus
"The Biggest Barrier to Knowing God"
1 John 1:5-10

We can only have an intimate connection with God if we come into the light.
When we sin, we can:

minimize it

but we are just lying,
and it poisons our fellowship with God.

deny it

but we deceive ourselves,
and God sees the truth about us.

conceal it

but we end up calling God a liar,
and we find ourselves empty and isolated.

confess it

And receive forgiveness of our sin.

And be purified of our sin.

And be restored to fellowship.

When it comes to restoring our relationship with God, it's all about Jesus.

LifeGroup Questions: Applying the Teaching to Our Lives

1. Read 1 John 1:6. What does darkness represent in this verse? What are some ways people who claim to be Christians ("little Christ ones") often walk in darkness?
2. Who is someone in your group who has shown you what it looks like to walk in the light? Take a moment and encourage them right now.
3. In the sermon, we saw 3 toxic ways to handle our sin and one healthy way to handle our sin. Which one do you tend to lean towards most often? Explain.
4. Beyond the lies we tell ourselves about our sin, we tell ourselves other lies as well that, while not sinful, are harmful. What are the lies you tell yourself? (Possible suggestions: "I'm not good enough, I'm ugly, I can't do it, I'm stupid, I'm alone, no one is going through a situation like mine, everyone hates me, I'm not loved..., etc.") How does the light of Jesus shine truth into every one of those areas? What would it look like to tell yourself the truth in one of those situations?
5. Read 1 John 1:6–10 again. Why is confession of sin such an important part of the Christian life? What are the consequences if we are unwilling to confess our sin?
6. Do you consider yourself someone who is quick to confess your sin? What causes us to delay?

Core CHRISTlike Characteristic: Connected to God through the Word and Prayer