

Walk in the Light

1 John 1:5-6

1 John 1:5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you

This is the message, as children of God it is imperative that we love one another!

1 John 3:11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another

1 Corinthians 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread

Jesus gave instructions to the disciples that the Lord's supper was to be practice *in remembrance of me*. It is a time of reflection upon the great sacrifice the Lord Jesus made for us. The broken bread reminds us of his physical body that was wounded for us.

That God is light

God is light - The source of wisdom, knowledge, holiness, and happiness; and in him is no darkness at all-no ignorance, no imperfection, no sinfulness, no misery. And from him wisdom, knowledge, holiness, and happiness are received by every believing soul. This is the grand message of the Gospel, the great principle on which the happiness of man depends. LIGHT implies every essential excellence, especially wisdom, holiness, and happiness. DARKNESS implies all imperfection, and principally ignorance, sinfulness, and misery. LIGHT is the purest, the most subtile, the most useful, and the most diffusive of all God's creatures; it is, therefore, a very proper emblem of the purity, perfection, and goodness of the Divine nature. God is to human soul, what the light is to the world; without the latter all would be dismal and uncomfortable, and terror and death would universally prevail: and without an indwelling God what is religion? Without his all-penetrating and diffusive light, what is the soul of man? Religion would be an empty science, a dead letter, a system unauthoritated and uninfluencing, and the soul a trackless wilderness, a howling waste, full of evil, of terror and dismay, and ever racked with realizing anticipations of future, successive, permanent, substantial, and endless misery. No wonder the apostle lays this down as a first and grand principle, stating it to be the essential message which he had received from Christ to deliver to the world. *Adam Clarke's Commentary*

Psalm 104:2-4 Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.

1 Timothy 6:16 Who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Revelation 21:23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

Revelation 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

How important is light? On a dark road? In dark room?

Recently, my neighborhood had a power outage at 5:00 a.m. There was complete darkness in the room, throughout the house and the neighborhood. But the minute the lights went off in the house my flashlight that had been plugged into the wall immediately turned on. My eyes were immediately drawn to the light that were actually blinded until my eyes adjusted.

He is the Light of Life, He is God!

Psalm 27:127 The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

Psalm 84:11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Isaiah 60:19: The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the Lord will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory.

What did Jesus mean when he said I am the light of the world?

He is the source and fountain of light. Jesus Christ is the light incarnate who has come as the light to enlighten and give us spiritual illumination. This is what John is telling us of what He heard from God in human flesh.

John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

What should our response be to His light?

God even gives us examples through the insect world. When in danger a moth will fly towards the light. Once the moth comes close to a bright light, it might have a hard time leaving the light since going back into the dark renders it blind and it has a hard time adjusting to the darkness. If the moth escapes, it doesn't remember the problem with flying too near the light and normally finds itself in the same predicament all over again. As believer's we should follow our Lord Jesus and to be drawn to His perfect light so that we will never walk in

darkness but walk in the light of His truth, the light of His Word, and the light of eternal Life. When we do so we will reflect our Lord and Savior the Light of Life. The gospel Light we have is not to be covered, but made obvious for all to see and benefit from, that they, too, may leave the darkness and come into the Light.

And in Him there is no darkness at all

God is absolutely perfect; there is nothing in him which is in any way imperfect, or anything or anyone who could damage His character. He is characterized by the truth. God can not lie as He is truth. He can not sin as He is Holy. That is Who He is.

What is the evidence of following the Light?

If we say we are in the light we will be devoted to truth, righteousness and holiness, this is the evidence of Christ in our life. Our inner being should be saying the same thing God says about sin and since we are fallen humanity, we need repentance.

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 12:35-36 Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

If we say

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 2:4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

Matthew 7:22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

James 2:16 And one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

James 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Revelation 3:17-18 "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' --and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-- "I

counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

What biblical truths do we see from these verses?

We have fellowship one with another

We are united in purpose and fellowship with Jesus Christ, unified and serving alongside each other, living for the same ends.

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

Psalms 5:4-6 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity. You shall destroy those who speak falsehood; The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Psalms 94:20 Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, Have fellowship with You?

2 Corinthians 6:14-16 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

Right now I want to speak to ladies who have or had unbelieving husbands. What are some of the challenges you face with an unbelieving husband in light of the gospel?

It can be discouraging at times ladies but remember there is hope in Christ! Be faithful in praying for your husband's salvation. Let's be obedient to our Lord's commands. Whether we are believers with unbelieving or believing husbands we are all required to live godly lives.

Walk in darkness

What is darkness?

Webster's Dictionary defines darkness as- Arising from or showing evil traits or desires, evil, lacking knowledge, unenlightened.

Moral depravity and its punishment. Metaphorically the mind, private secret place. The literal contrast between metaphysical good and evil, God and evil forces, believers and unbelievers, everything that evokes everything that is anti-God. Spiritual or moral darkness symbolic of sin as a condition of moral or spiritual depravity. *Strong's Expanded Exhaustive Concordance*

John 1:5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 12:35 Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.

1 John 2:9-11 He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Psalms 82:5 They do not know, nor do they understand; They walk about in darkness; All the foundations of the earth are unstable.

Proverbs 4:18-19 But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble.

John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

John 11:10 "But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

Praise God that Christ is our light, and He has opened our eyes to His saving truth so we no longer have to walk in darkness. Jesus broke through the darkness of sin by His work on the cross.

John 12:46 "I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

2 Corinthians 4:4-6 Whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

We lie

What is a lie?

An intentional violation of truth, false statement, fiction, disappoints confidence. *Easton's Bible Dictionary*

1 John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

1 John 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

John 8:44-45 "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.

If we lie, what does that show others around us?

Untruth, and an attempt to deceive by falsehood is never to be known of a child of God, it is sin. We not only deceive ourselves but others. We are deceived if we think that we can have fellowship with God and live in the practice of sin. As God is pure and holy, so must we.

And do not practice the truth

If we are not following in truth, the profession we claim is a false one and not truthful. To practice the truth is to act and behave in truth.

God is truth! Last week Sharyn shared with us *Psalm 119:160- "The sum of Thy word is truth, and every one of Thy righteous ordinances is everlasting. " God's word is everything He has spoken, all He has caused to be recorded, each word of His counsel, all of His commands, and every one of His promises and judgments. All God's thoughts that He has chosen to reveal to us and every spoken sentence from Him is truth. God's essence is truth.*

Isaiah 25:1 O Lord, You are my God. I will exalt You, I will praise Your name, For You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

John 3:21 "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

As followers of Christ we too are to reflect truth. A believer's character and feelings resemble God by His example of holiness, purity and being a light in the world. One who is walking in the truth. Do our lives manifest truth and holiness? Do we confess sin and repent immediately? Let's not be like the heretics and false teachers John was talking about who claimed to be walking in the light and yet did not recognize their sin. When we see sin as Christ sees sin we will long for truth and holiness. Our task is to pass on the Divine Light we have received. We are to shine as light in a dark world. The only way others can see our light is in darkness. May our lights shine so brightly that there is no doubt that we are children of God. Let's not let our Light be extinguished, but fan it, by reading His Word, spending time in prayer and giving and serving others. It's only when we spend time with others that they will see His glorious light reflecting from our lives. May our lights shine so bright that, like a moth that is drawn to the light, others may be drawn to His light because of our gratefulness, love, hope, joy and peace we have in Christ. Let's be faithful until the end!