

“The Life-Long Learner” October 28, 2007

I John 1:1-10 (ESV)

1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he 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 deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just 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.

Small Group Questions:

1. The passage makes a number of references to the word “fellowship.” What does “fellowship” mean to you? What kinds of fellowship is this passage talking about?
2. Does this passage give us some ideas about how we can get “fellowship”?
3. Is there a difference between being saved as a Christian and being in fellowship?
4. How does the scripture passage contrast the difference between light and darkness?
5. What do you think is meant by the phrase “in him is no darkness at all” in verse 5?
6. This passage talks about “walking in the light.” What are ways Christians can walk in the light? (Compare the Apostle Paul: “. . . *for once you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*” Eph. 5:8-9.)
7. What is one very important thing that this passage talks about in terms of being able to walk in the light?
8. Are there ways you can tell that you are walking in the light?