

HOW MY FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD IS BROKEN AND REPAIRED

1 John 1:5-10

Outline

Introduction: Truth matters...truth matters...because lies - even great-sounding lies - are dangerous. Into the ancient world of false religions and philosophies stepped John the apostle. His letter to first-century Christians defended the faith against false teaching and proclaimed the characteristics of authentic fellowship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Today we will look at what the Bible teaches about how believers handle the subject of sin.

Three purposes for Christ's Incarnation - vs. 3-4, *that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*

1. The vertical – *that we might have eternal fellowship with the Father and the Son*

2. The horizontal – *that we might have loving fellowship with one another*

3. The internal – *that our joy might be filled up to the full*

John's declaration defined: God is Light - vs. 6

The holiness of God declared

Two ways our fellowship with God is interrupted:

1. We deny sin's root. **vs. 8, *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

2. We deny sin's fruit. **vs. 10, *If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.***

The ultimate fellowship restored - vs. 9, *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

1. Our condition to fulfill - we must fulfill this condition: ***If we confess our sins***

2. God's gracious response: ***He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

Conclusion: Is fellowship about relationship or rules to you?