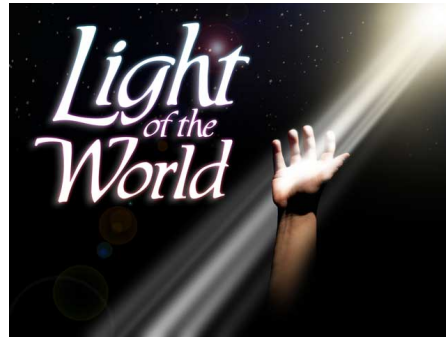


A Hero Worth Following



READ & OBSERVE: 1 John 1:5-2:2

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out 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, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

2 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.



"My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?"

C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

REFLECT & INTREPRET: What are the traits of a person you would call a "hero?"

One of Jesus most powerful weapons: _____

Where do we often go wrong?

"When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves." (Genesis 3:5-7)

God calls out, "where are you?"

Adam responds: "I heard you in the garden, I was AFRAID because I was NAKED, so I HID" (Genesis 3:10)

Key Thought: The moment we think we know better than God...

10 Spiritual test questions that separate Posers, fakers, and wannabes from authentic followers of Jesus...

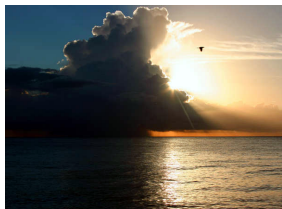
1. The Basic Morality question: Am I walking...

(1 John 1:6-7, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:8-16, 2 Peter 1:3-11)

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

What is the difference between "light" and "darkness"?

Light (Gk: phos) =



Darkness (Gk: skotia) =
(note: Galatians 5:19-21)

Why IS walking in the light better than walking in darkness?

Outcome of walking in darkness... (list)

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools".
(Romans 1:20-22)

Outcome of walking in light... (list)

RESPOND / APPLICATION: What does God require from me to walk in the "light?"

2. The Spiritual Humility question: Do I see myself...

(1 John 1:8 ,2:2, Romans 3:23, 5:6-10, 6:23, 7:14-25, Galatians 2:21)

Jesus promises to be our ADVOCATE (Gk: parakleton): What does this mean for us?

DIGGING DEEPER THIS WEEK...



DAY 1: WHO IS GOD?

Read through John 1:5-2:2 each day. Draw a square around key words describing God, a circle around key words relating to us, and underline any actions or commands. Double underline the most important points in the passage.

What does this passage teach you about God? How does believing these truths affect my life?

What does this passage teach you about us?

DAY 2: WHAT IS GOD SAYING?

What call to action or commands are mentioned? How will they impact your life today?

DAY 3: WHERE IS THE GOOD NEWS?

Reflect on these questions...

What sin has this passage exposed in your life? What specific command(s) are challenging to follow?

What grace is being offered in this passage? Where or from whom have you sought out this grace before?

DAY 4: HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO GOD?

Which truth from this passage is the most important to you today and how will you apply it to your life?

DAY 5: HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO OTHERS?

As you reflect on the truth or lessons learned in the passage...

Who do you need to forgive or seek forgiveness from?

Who do you need to encourage, thank, or serve this week?

Who do you need to share or process this passage with?