

## DARKNESS TO LIGHT | Week 2

1 John 2: 1-11

- Last week we looked at Jesus' journey, the reality that we live in of darkness and light, a cross-over opportunity and how we need to walk in the light.
- This week we are looking at how to maintain our walk in the light.
- Read 1 John 2: 1-2
- Walk with **humble confidence**.
  - Propitiation – (NIV says atoning sacrifice) means appeasement or satisfier
    - Because Jesus walked as a lamb being led to slaughter (Isaiah 53:7) we walk with that same humility with the same submission to the master, but knowing we have confidence because we are in his will
    - We cannot operate out of fear of messing up
      - We are afraid to share the gospel with someone because what if I tell them wrong or they ask a question I don't know the answer to
      - Romans 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father!
      - 2 Timothy 1:7 For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
    - 1 John 3:1 "See what kind of love the father has given to us, that we should be called children of God." Knowing this is how much God values you, that He sent His Son to die for you, that he calls us his children
- Read 1 John 2:3-4
  - **Keeps His commandments**
    - Keeps can also be translated as obeys or guards
    - You have to know his commands in order to be able to follow them
    - Talk about how to guard,
      - Jeff's keys
        - Use a story of someone guarding something after someone instructed them to. My buddy jeff instructed someone not to give his keys away at his wedding so we couldn't decorate his car. The lady was guarding the keys. She wouldn't tell us where they were, and I tried to convince her fully that we needed them.
        - real world example when a boss says to do this
    - It's not just the act of doing something either
      - Truthfulness, sincerity, unselfishness, humility, patience, forgiveness, purity, honesty
        - All of these things are values that Islam has as well and also many moralists
      - But God is concerned with the heart in which we do it and the why

- Story of taking out the trash and how much I hated it
    - Just because we do certain things and live a certain way doesn't mean you're doing and living and walking in the light of God.
    - There has to be something about keeping His commandments that separate you from a Muslim or a moralist.
    - **Christianity is not about being a good person, it's about admitting you're not and following the only one who is.**
    - We know Him if we keep His commandments.
- Read 1 John 2:6-8
  - Whoever **Abides**
    - Abides means to remain in
    - John 15:4 "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me."
      - What is your fruit?
        - Where does it come from?
        - Is it actually fruit?
        - When you examine your life what do you see?
    - Every day we must refocus/orient our hearts to what God has called us.
      - Jesus is Lord of this man
      - Before you walk into work, God has called me here for a purpose
      - God as I Get on Facebook today
      - Every morning before we walk into work, before we go home
      - It's saying, "God show me what you want me to do today?" How to love my co-workers, how to love my family.
- Read 1 John 2:8 at the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in Him and in you because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.
  - When we go through the crossover and we abide in Christ these commands that God gives us moves from a set of rules to follow to a declaration/proclamation of who we are.
  - It moves from This is what we do to this is who we are
  - When you abide, you become a part of what you are abiding in.
    - Romans 11: 23 And even then, if they do not continue in their unbelief will be grafted in because God has the power to graft them in again
    - You get grafted in
    - You get absorbed into the promise
      - The promise that was given to Abraham the father of the Israelites
      - You are not just an impressionist, but when you abide you get grafted in and it becomes who you are/your identity
      - So, allow the commands of God to be a declaration of who you are

- We are people who love, give, serve fill in the command
  - As A church, we are a people who Learn Live Give it
- When you go through the cross-over and the holy spirit dwells in your life, that is the light that begins to shine in you. It's the light of Christ
- So, who are you?
- Do the commands of God describe you as a person/ as a church
- Read 1 John 9-11
  - One test that John gives is "Do you love your brother?" The 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest commandment
  - That means that you have to know your brother
    - Live in community
  - Whoever hates their brother is in darkness and darkness is blinding them
- Read 1 John 2:1-11
  - Walk with a humble confidence
    - Out of submission to God and confidence out of walking with him
  - Keep/ guard His commandments
    - That means we know his commandments
    - And were doing it for him
  - Abide in him
    - Orient your heart every day
    - Move from a set of rules to proclamations and declarations
  - Do you genuinely love your brother?