

Flag Branch Missionary Baptist Church
Baptist Training Union

1st, 2nd and 3rd John
How Should A Christian Live

Study 1: Coming Into Fellowship – 1 John 1:1-7

1. That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our own eyes, which we have gazed upon and touched with our own hands—this is the Word of life.
2. And this is the life that was revealed; we have seen it and testified to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.
3. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And this fellowship of ours is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.
4. We write these things so that our joy may be complete.
5. And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you: God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
6. If we say we have fellowship with Him yet walk in the 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.

John 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

Discussion

- A. How does John describe who he is writing about? This person was “from the beginning” and is “the Word of life”. What does he mean by this? Are these statements faith claims? Explain. v. 1.
- B. What else does John say about the Word of life in this verse? Why does he use the word “it” and to what is he referring? What does John say he is “proclaiming”? v. 2.
- C. What is John’s purpose in proclaiming what he says? In the previous verses John says “we” instead of “I” and now “our” instead of “mine”. Who is the “we” and “our” he refers to? v. 1-3.
- D. John’s stated purpose for writing is for his readers to have “fellowship”. What does John mean by the word “fellowship”? Describe the fellowship to which he is referring.
- E. How does writing these things make “our” joy complete? Again, who is “our”? Are there compelling reasons to believe him? v. 4.
- F. John says that “God is light”. In what respect or way is God light?
- G. What is the message John is announcing? What meaning is John giving to the words “light” and “darkness”? Might he mean “knowledge/truth” as opposed to “ignorance/lies”? Explain. v. 5.
- H. Read John 8:12. “Walking in darkness” excludes anyone from fellowship with the Father and Son. What does Jesus and John mean by this phrase? What if light is knowledge of truth? v. 6.
- I. How is the “walk in light” opposite from the “walk in darkness”?
- J. What will happen to those who walk in the light? What is the meaning of “cleanses from sin”?
- K. After reading John’s opening statements, how important is having fellowship with the Father and Son? How do we know if we are in fellowship with them?