

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 16, 2005

Passage: 1 John 1:5-2:1

Memory Passage: 1 John 1:9

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 1:5.** What does John tell us about the nature of God? Why is the nature of God a beginning point for understanding salvation and the Christian life?
- (b) How does the faithfulness of God affect His promises to us (James 1: 17; Hebrews 13:8; Numbers 23:19; 2 Timothy 2:11-12)?
- (c) Will He be faithful to you even if you fail Him? What happened to Peter (John 21:15-21)? What did Jesus tell Peter even after he failed him?
- (d) What is the doctrine of assurance of salvation tied to: our performance or God's promises? Explain your answer. How should this affect our walk with Him?
- (e) *Family:* Read 1 John 1:5 and talk about why the Bible contrasts darkness and light. Talk about what John is saying about God and how this affects our understanding of salvation. Pray today for someone who is still in the kingdom of darkness.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 1:6-7.** What is essential for a believer to have regular fellowship with God? How does sin affect that fellowship? Why?
- (b) Why does Ephesians 5:8 say it is important that we walk in the light? How can we walk in the light according to Ephesians 5:9-21? Make a list of these things.
- (c) Why is it important that we walk in the light (2 Corinthians 6:14)? What always happens when a person stops walking in the light?
- (d) Why is this (see John 3:19-21)? Can this happen to anyone (1 Corinthians 10:11-13)?
- (e) How does regular fellowship with believers help us with the problem of sin (Hebrews 10:24-25)?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 1:6-7 and Hebrews 10:24-25. Talk about the importance of being with other Christians. Pray together for your church family today and thank God for giving you fellowship with Him and His church.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 1:8.** What does John say about persons who say they have no sin? Are there groups of Christians who believe this?
- (b) Who is being deceived? Do these types of people deceive others? Explain. What does Jeremiah 17:9 tell us about all of us?
- (c) Read 1 Samuel 11-12. Who was deceiving himself in this passage? How could he do this? What are some ways *we* deceive ourselves?
- (d) What happened that caused David to repent of his sin? What should be our response to fellow believers who live in sin (Galatians 6:1-2)?
- (e) Read 1 John 1:10. What is different in this verse from 1:8? What are these claiming? Why does he say they make God a liar?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 1:8-10 and Romans 3:10-23 together. Talk about the sinfulness of all men. Do Christians still sin? What are people doing who claim they don't sin anymore? Pray that God would keep your heart sensitive to your sin so that you would remember that you are always a sinner saved by grace.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 1:9.** What does John tell us to do with our sin? What happens if we do not?
- (b) How does the character of God assure us that we will be forgiven when we confess our sin?
- (c) What two things does he say God will do? What is the difference between these two?
- (d) Read Psalm 32:1-6. What happened to David when he failed to confess his sin? What did David do that changed this? What happened when he did confess his sin?
- (e) What other benefit of confession does David mention in verse 6? Explain what this means. How does this illustrate 1 John 1:9?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 John 1:9 and talk about the need for forgiveness and the results of forgiveness. Consider your sins and take them to the Lord today and receive His forgiveness and cleansing.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Psalm 51:1-6.** What things did David realize about his sin? What does he acknowledge about God? How are these aspects all part of confession?

(b) Read Psalm 51:7-13. List the things David asks God to do for him. What does David ask that God “restore?” What does this tell you about assurance of salvation?

(c) What does David say about the Holy Spirit? Is this the same or different for New Testament believers (John 14:16-17)?

(d) Read 1 John 2:1. Is John encouraging people to sin since we all will sin? Why has he written to them?

(e) What encouragement does John give to those who do sin?

(f) *Family:* Read Psalm 51:1-13. Talk together about David’s sin and how he received forgiveness. How is his experience similar to ours? How is it different? Spend some in prayer thanking God for the forgiveness that we have because of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Do even Christians sin? What are some wrong ways that we deal with sin? What is the right way? What does God promise? Talk together about our sin nature and the blessing of forgiveness that believers have.

DATE: January 16, 2005**PASSAGE:** 1 John 1:5-2:1***Dealing with Sin***

“And if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ the righteous one.”