

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 15, 2021

Passage: 1 John 2:1-2

Memory Passage: 1 John 2:1-2

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** Write a sentence conveying what you learned last week about sin.
- (b) What does the phrase “My little children” convey about John’s relationship to the ones to whom he writes?
- (c) What is John’s second purpose for writing his letter (cf. 1:4)? How does this purpose relate to what he wrote in 1:5-10?
- (d) What does the “but” in the middle of v. 1 tell you about the relationship between what follows and what precedes?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** Does John expect people to sin? Explain from the text how you know.
- (b) The Greek word translated advocate is παράκλητος (parakletos) and is the same word Jesus used to describe the Holy Spirit in John’s gospel: 14:16, 26; 14:26; 16:7 (the only five times this noun occurs in the NT). Read each of these verses and describe what you learn about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the differences in their work as Helper/Advocate.
- (c) Explain how Jesus works as “an advocate” with the Father on a believing sinners’ behalf?
- (d) Why does John use the term “Jesus Christ the righteous” to describe Jesus in this setting? How does it reflect His work?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** What does the word “propitiation” mean (we cover this definition regularly in sermons!)?
- (b) The Greek noun translated “propitiation” only occurs here and 1 John 4:10 (the verb form occurs in Rom. 3:25 and a different but related word occurs in Heb. 2:17). According to 4:10, for what purpose did God propitiate through His Son?
- (c) Why must God be propitiated, and why must “Jesus Christ the righteous” be the one who propitiates?
- (d) What does a human’s need for a propitiating sacrifice tell you about humans?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** The meaning of the phrase “the whole world” is disputed, but a look at how John uses the word κόσμος (kosmos; 108 times in his writings) will help us understand its correct interpretation and application.

(b) We could examine many passages, but read the following passages and write a definition of “world” according to John. John 3:16-21; 8:23; 9:39; 12:31-32, 46-47; 13:1; 14:30-31; 15:18-19; 17:6-25; 18:36 1 John 2:15-17; 4:1-6; 5:19.

(c) In what way did Jesus die for the sins of the whole world? How would you answer someone who said, based on 1 John 2:2, that everyone on earth who has ever lived will be saved because Jesus died for the sins of the whole world?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1 John 2:1-2.** How does having an advocate, especially the nature of His advocacy, affect your desire to sin? How does it encourage and equip you to fight sin (Remember John’s purpose in 2:1)?

(b) Notice the present tense of 2:2—“He is the propitiation for our sins . . .” What does this tell you about the nature of sin and the need for an Advocate?

(c) How does this passage inform your presentation of the gospel to someone outside of Christ? If 1 John 2:1-2 were the only two verses you had, the only two you had memorized, would you be able to share a complete gospel with someone? Explain.

(d) Since Jesus serves as the propitiation for our sins (i.e., a sacrifice that turns away God’s wrath from us and toward Himself, and then turns Him toward us again in favor rather than wrath), what should be our daily response to God (who now looks upon us with favor) and Christ (who provided Himself as the provision for this grace)? Another way to ask this: how does this gracious act of propitiation fuel your daily worship of God?

DATE: August 15, 2021

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Our Advocate: Jesus Christ the Righteous