

Sermon Discussion

22 January 2023

Read 1 John 1:5-10 together.

Getting Started *Sharing from personal experience*

- When did you first start to observe or experience proof that your faith in Christ is real?
- What did you see that provided proof for you?
- What questions do you still have concerning the authenticity of your faith?

Observation *Discovering the context*

How does the theme of walking in the light in Chapter 1 relate to this passage in chapter 2:3-6?

Some people think 1 John 1:9 gives Christians a “pass” to sin because God forgives us no matter what. What do you think? How does Romans 6:1-4 and 1 John 2:1 contradict this line of thinking?

1 John 2:1-3 claims that you have an “advocate” in heaven when you sin. Why does John call Jesus our advocate and why do we need one?

Interpretation *Discovering the meaning*

1. Most of us have sung the hymn “In Christ Alone” many times. In one verse the lyrics say: “And on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.” 1 John 2:2-3 claims that Jesus went to the defense of humanity as the propitiation for our sins. In your own words, what is the doctrine of propitiation? Try to use scripture to “defend” your answer.
2. Discuss your understanding of why obedience proves authentic faith?
3. Have you ever known someone who seemed to exhibit obedience but ended up abandoning the faith? What is the difference? (see 1 John 2:19)
4. Why would God want us to be obedient as a way of our showing our love for Him?

Application *Putting knowledge into practice*

- What action is the Lord prompting you to take this week as a result of being in His Word?

- Try memorising 1 John 2:2
“He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.”

- How has God blessed you and answered prayer this week?