SPOKEN FOR: ADVOCATE 1 JOHN 2:1-2 4-9-23 (EASTER)

1 John 2:1-2 - "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."

- I. WHY IS JESUS A GOOD ADVOCATE? (v.1)
 - 1. He is righteous.
 - **2.** He <u>understands us</u>. (Hebrews 4:15)
- **II.** HOW DOES JESUS ADVOCATE FOR US? (v.2)
 - 1. He is our propitiation.
 - ~ He satisfies the wrath of God towards us and our sin.
 - **2.** He is wounded for us. (Isaiah 53:5)
 - ~ He bears the marks of our sin and shame.
- **III.** WHO IS JESUS AN ADVOCATE FOR? (v.2b)
 - ~ Everyone who would believe in Him.

GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK

- 1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
- 2. What does it say about God that He would speak for us and on our behalf? What does it say about us and why we need it? Why is it important for us to acknowledge this?
- 3. Why is it so powerful for us to know that we have an advocate with God? How does it inspire us to live in this life?
- 4. What did you learn about Jesus as your advocate that can help you when you sin or help others who are struggling with sin?

READ ROMANS 8:34

- 5. What does it mean that Jesus intercedes for us? How does this relate to His role as advocate?
- 6. Do you ever have trouble asking for help or accepting help from others? Why?
- 7. Do you ever hesitate to ask God to help you? What hinders you from freely asking and accepting the help that God offers?
- 8. John describes Jesus our advocate as "Jesus Christ the righteous". Why is it important for John to highlight Jesus' righteousness? How does this enhance His role as our advocate?
- 9. What encouragement can we draw from better understanding 1 John 2:2 and Jesus being our propitiation?