

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

If someone says that they _____, how would one know if it is true?

- are in love with someone . . .
- are committed to a cause . . .
- are in fellowship with God . . .

LEARN FROM THE BIBLE

One of the lead questions of this book of the Bible is 'Am I in fellowship with God?' The word "know," or one of its cognates, is used 39 times. We will see it more times as we walk through 1 John. The author wants us to "know" that we are in fellowship with God. Our passage for this week will speak to one aspect of the answer. Let's dig in. Read 1 John 1:5-10.

The author begins by appealing to the character of God, that "God is light." How is this connected with His desire for people to have fellowship with God?

List the five "If" statements and the corresponding "then" statements (some are implied).(NIV)

v.6: IF

THEN

v. 7 IF

THEN

v. 8 IF

THEN

v. 9 IF

THEN

v.10 IF

THEN

What is the main point of these statements?

What are the promises of this passage?

What are the warnings?

Comments about verse nine:

- “Faithful” means that God is “faithful” to His promises to forgive.
- God is "just" or "righteous" and does not simply dismiss our sins. Rather, Jesus took on our sins and gave us His righteousness. So when we place our faith in Jesus, God is "just" to cleanse us.
- Does this mean to confess once and we are pure? Yes. We know that once we place our trust in Jesus, He fully cleanses us. However, John is addressing having a relationship of fellowship with God. Therefore, he is also pointing to a posture of humility in that fellowship. Therefore, a part of that healthy relationship would include regular confession of sins and knowing that we are cleansed and forgiven.

APPLY IT THIS WEEK

It is wonderful news that through Jesus, we can live in fellowship with God and one another. What does this fellowship in your life look like? While it is sometimes easier to focus on fellowship with one another because of physical presence, this book will regularly ask us questions about our relationship with God. For this week, here’s the question: “Do you see that you are walking in the light? Does your life have a pattern of stuck in sin or of growing in righteousness? Of joy in Jesus?”

DISCUSS IT TOGETHER

What do we learn about the character of God in this chapter?

According to chapter one, what did Jesus accomplish on the cross?

Why is confession of sin important in our relationship with God?

PRAYER

This is our **Week of Prayer**. Please go to our website or our app to see “the daily prayer prompts.” Also, Thursday is the National Day of Prayer. We are joining on campus to pray. (see times on website)