

DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Light Path out of Hypocrisy (1 John #2)

Week of Sept 16, 2018

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

ICEBREAKER (Optional)

If you could choose to have one super power, what would you choose and why?

DISCUSSION

1. In his message, Erin talked about hypocrisy. What are some ways in which our American and/or Midwestern culture behaves hypocritically?

Read 1 John 1:5–2:2.

2. What is the message John is proclaiming?
3. What do you think it means to "walk in darkness" and "walk in the light"?
4. What hypocrisy is John warning his readers about in this passage?



5. a. At Riverwood, we define the gospel as "the ongoing story of God redeeming broken and imperfect people and restoring them into the image of Jesus through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ." Where do you see the gospel in 1 John 1:5–2:2?

- b. According to John, who is this gospel for?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

6. When you act hypocritically or engage in sin, what does John teach you to do if you are a Jesus-follower? What does this look like on a daily basis?
7. In light of this passage and today's discussion, what do you feel God's Holy Spirit calling you to do?

MEMORY VERSE

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

PRAYER

Spend some time in prayer, confessing sin, and thanking God for Jesus, the "propitiation" for our sins. (If you are not a Jesus-follower yet, we invite you to use this time of confessing & thanksgiving as the starting point to begin a life of following Jesus. And talk to someone in the Group about this life-changing decision!)

