

## Talk it Over - I JOHN 1:5-10 - Light & Darkness

Have a few people in the group tell their best “*scared of the dark story*”

This week’s text dives into the depths of our heart and life by examining whether or not we are walking in the light. This text provides a great opportunity to encourage your group to walk in the light with God and with one another.

### **Read I JOHN 1:5-10**

1. According to verse 5, what message have they heard from Jesus and are now proclaiming to the readers?
3. Read 1 John 1:6–10. There are three lies presented here that Christians can buy into. What are they, and what truth statements are attached to each?
4. “WORD” appears again here. Is it being used the way it was in verse 1? What does it mean here? (See 1 John 2:4–5.)

### **Interpretation**

1. Read Romans 3:10 and 23 and record what you learn about the sin nature. How does this contrast with what the false teachers were teaching, according to 1 John 1:8? What does this verse say about the one who denies sin? Can this person be a believer?
2. Our sin makes us dirty. It defiles us. Jesus not only forgives and pays the penalty for our sin, but he “cleanses” us of the filth and defilement of our sin. Where else in the Bible do we see the idea of cleansing oneself of sin?
3. While the lie in verse 8 revolves around the denial of the sin nature, the lie in verse 10 revolves around the denial of specific, individual sins. How does verse 9, then, contrast with verse 10?
4. Read 1 John 1:5–10 again and note all the verses referring to the gospel message. How would that have given hope and encouragement to the believers of the day? How do these truths encourage you?

### **Application**

1. Have you grown up believing any lies? How do these verses challenge your thoughts and fellowship with God, beliefs about sin and confession and the life of a believer?
2. Do you make it a daily practice of confessing to God your sin and repenting of it? What sin is God asking you to confess today?

### **PRAY**

That everyone in the group to come to a greater understanding of God that He’s light (i.e., holy) and how He desires for us to live by faith in Christ, trusting His cleansing work, not ours.

### **DO**

Depending on the makeup of your group, you can consider one of the following options:

1. Set aside some time at the end for confession, prayer, and encouragement. You can keep the group together as a whole, or consider breaking up into small groups.
2. If you don’t have enough time, encourage people to get together outside of group time for confession, prayer, and encouragement.