



4. John makes it clear in verses 5-10 that there is evidence that having a real relationship with God will produce in our experience. The major evidence (fruit) that having a true relationship with God through Jesus produces is a new relationship with sin. John makes it clear that believers in Jesus are now in such a relationship with God who is light, that His light of truth shines into their lives in an inescapable way that shows them their sin (anything that is disobedient to God in heart or action). What is your relationship with sin? Is it something you hide or something you acknowledge? How has being in a relationship with God through Jesus changed that?

5. The greatest truth our hearts need in light of our sin is that we have a perfect atoning sacrifice for our sin, and that sacrifice is a person: Jesus. He stands as our heavenly advocate, always keeping us who have believed secure in Him where no accusation can touch us, even when we do sin. In light of this, we should embrace a daily walk of confession of our sin to God, not to earn our salvation, but to embrace the relationship we have with Him and the forgiveness He has already purchased for us in His Son. To confess is to agree with God about your sin. Is daily confession of your sin to God a habit in your life? What steps can you take to make confessing your sin to God a regular part of your walk with Him?

**Time of Prayer:**

*This week, take some time to pray a prayer of confession to God. You can do this together, or individually. Below is a sample prayer for you to follow:*

Heavenly Father, thank you for being perfect. Thank you for being true. Thank you for loving me. Thank you that in your love and grace you have shown me my sin because my sin is not good for me. I confess to you my sin, my disobedience, my desire for things that you would have me to let go, my heart that turns away from you even though I don't want it to. I agree with you that what you say about my sin is right and true; it is evil. But I thank you that the fact you have shown me my sin means you love me. And it means you have already put me into a real relationship with you. And I believe and receive your love and forgiveness because you have already paid for all my sin in your Son Jesus Christ, my Lord. God thank you for forgiving me completely, and cleansing me from all unrighteousness. Thank you for keeping me close to you because of what Jesus did for me. I love you God.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.