

1 JOHN – PART I
“LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF...”
AUGUST 30 & 31, 2008

Ice Breaker

Was there ever anything you really wanted or were excited to do, that you thought you would be so happy if you got it or were able to do it, only to be disappointed when it didn't meet your expectations?

Introduction / Historical Background

It is widely accepted that this letter is written by Jesus' disciple John, who wrote the Gospel of John. It was probably sent, as a circular letter, to the early churches around Ephesus about 90 A.D. There was a false doctrine being spread, which in part was teaching that Jesus could not have been God in a human body, and salvation came through “mental enlightenment” with revelation only coming to the spiritual elite. John exposes the heresy of the false teachers and confirms the faith of the true believers.

Read Together

1 John 1:1-10

Discussion Questions

1. In review of Pastor Dan's message, what were the four main reasons he gave for John writing this letter?
2. What did the simple acronym of JOY stand for? Is there some way you can apply this perspective to your life this week in a practical way (time, priorities, etc.)?
3. What do you think is the difference between joy and happiness?
4. What needs to happen for us to be able to come to the place of confessing our sin to God? What is the result of that confession (vs. 9)?
5. Can you identify some false doctrines that still exist today?

Prayer/Ministry

Are there things that the Holy Spirit is convicting you of that you need to confess (privately or publicly) to allow you to walk in the forgiveness and joy God offers?

Memory Verse

1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”