

1 John, Week One - Living and walking in the light

1 John 1:1-2:2 - ¹ We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. ² This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that He is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then He was revealed to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.

The one who existed from the beginning: _____

He is the Word of life: _____

He is the one who is eternal life: _____

1 John 1:5-2:2

⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. ⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth...

- Light: (Greek: Phos) this word does mean to illuminate, but it also means to bring understanding and knowledge. _____

- Darkness: (Greek: Skotia) The interesting thing about this word is that it does not describe anything specific. _____

⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. ⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

2:1 My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. 2 He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. (NLT)

Discussion questions:

1 - With what the stats show about how often the average Christian reads their Bible, how does that information make you feel about your own Bible reading frequency?_____

2 - Why does John spend so much time emphasizing the importance of living in the light?_____

3 - How is the term “Light” (greek - phos) used in this portion of text, and why is it important for us to understand that usage?_____

4 - How is the term “Darkness” used in this portion of text, and why is it important for us to understand that usage?_____

5 - John used the phrase “Spiritual Darkness” in verse 6. Given what we have learned about the greek terms for light and darkness, how should we view this phrase, and what should we do in our lives to avoid living in a spiritual darkness?_____
