



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of February 6, 2023

1. Read 1 John 1:5-10. Why is the analogy of “light” appropriate for God? What does the Bible say about God’s character and nature? How does he compare to the “darkness” of sin and a secular world?
2. Looking closely at verse 6, what does it mean to “walk in darkness”? Why is it a real problem for someone to claim to know God, but live consistently in the darkness of sin? What would you say to someone who claims to be a Christian, but their everyday experience overflows with sinful behavior?
3. God is perfect— but we will never be this side of heaven. So how can we have a relationship with God (a friendship/fellowship) that is genuine? Look at verse 7 for the answer. What does Jesus have to do with this?
4. False teachers in the second half of the 1st century were saying that a person could be “spiritual” on the inside, while enjoying every aspect of carnality and immorality on the outside. In other words, they didn’t take sin seriously. How did John respond to this in verses 8 and 10? What other Bible verses talk about the reality of sin?
5. Think it through logically: If we don’t admit that we are sinners, then what does this mean for our salvation and eternal life? Do we even need Jesus?
6. 1 John 1:9 is a famous and well-known verse. What should we do when we realize we have sinned against a holy God? What is the remedy for us? What is the result?
7. When you first became a Christian, you confessed sin and found forgiveness in Christ. Even though salvation (justification) is a one-time experience – how should the acts of confession/forgiveness be a regular part of your Christian life? How would you explain this to a new Christian?