

God's Fellowship (Series)

(1 John Chapter 4:7-21)

Lesson #5 "Fellowship with God comes through Christ"

Scripture: 1 John 1:7 "but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

Introduction:

What are some things that people might allow to come between them and God?

Lesson:

I. There is Victory in Jesus

1 John 5:1 "Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

- A. Whoever "believes" i.e. has faith and has entrusted himself to
 - Christ which is God's Messiah
 - Is born of God and has become His child
 - *You can't be a child of God outside His Messiah

- B. And whoever loves the Father Loves the child born of Him

- i.e. Loves Jesus

- Here God says, look, if you love me and you want to be around me and part of my life.

- You got to love Jesus

- *Your not going to have a relationship with me and leave Jesus on the porch.

1 John 5:2 "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments."

- Here God's is saying if you love Jesus:

- You've got to love my other children too.

- And here is how you will know if your on the right road to loving my children

- 1st God says by loving Me

- *If we are loving God with all our hearts
 - We will seek after His will denying ourselves
 - We strive to be like Him
 - Strive to please him in all that we do
 - We will place all of our trust in Him
 - And He will transform us into His image

- *When we love God in this way:
 - *It becomes a natural reflex to extend His love to our brothers and sisters in Christ

-Then 2nd , we can know if we are loving God's children:

- If we observe God's commands
 - Because all of his commands tell us to put others above ourselves, His commands tell us to be patient and kind with each other, bearing with each other and to share the love of the Father.
 - If we are not obedient to God's commands we are rebellious and are basically seeking our own direction, loving only ourselves.
- *Verse 3 says "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

*Desirous

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

- A. Being children of God places us in the victory category
 - Makes us more than conquerors Romans 8:37
- B. And specifically our victory comes through faith.....In Jesus Christ

1 John 5:5 "Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

II. God testifies that Jesus is the way to life.

6 This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. 10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a

liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. 11 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

- A. Jesus came by “DIA in the Greek” meaning throughWater & Blood
 - The reference is to his physical birth
 - *He was here in the flesh
- B. And God himself testified concerning His Son.
- C. And those that believe in Jesus have God’s testimony within them.
 - For the Spirit of God dwells in us.

III. We can be certain of eternal life through Jesus

13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 14 This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

- A. John says he has written to those who believe in the “Name” of the Son of God
 - i.e. those who believe and trust in His authority
- B. This is where the confidence of salvation lies....in the authority of God’s Son
 - So that, we may know that we have eternal life....
 - Its not something we wonder or worry about.
- C. And through the authority of Christ our needs are meet.

IV. In Jesus we have protection from “the sin of death”

16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this. 17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death.

18 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

- A. John goes back to talking about our understanding of sin in:
 - 1 John 2:1 “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin...”
 - And puts a firm final seal on it.
- B. A sin not leading to death is one that is repented of and turned away from.
 - Godly sorrow brings about repentance

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. 10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.”

C. 1 John 1:7 “but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

-Who is the light?.....

-In retrospect it is Jesus

C. So, what is a sin leading to death?

-Is a sin that is continued in

-Verse 18 says “We know that no one who is born of God sins”

-“Sins” is a present tense verb that means to continue in

-This fits the whole context of scripture and particularly 1 John

-The Hebrew writer affirms the same thing.

-Hebrews 10:26 “For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,”

-In other words if we continue in our sins God will turn away from us.

V. Truth comes from Jesus not the world

19 We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

A. The world lies in the power Satan

-And operates under his influence

B. But, the Christian

-Jesus has given understanding so they can know the father and so escape this present evil age.

C. We, as Christians, are in God.....in Jesus....Both part of the whole

-John 1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

VI. Don't let anything take the place of Jesus

21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

A. Kind of a surprise ending. John hasn't said anything so far about idolatry...has he?

-Idolatry, basically is anything that takes the place of God

*In context here its anything that takes the place of Jesus

Conclusion:

Acts 4:12

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

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John 14:6

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

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Fellowship with God comes only through His Son!

Today I would ask you one simple question. Has anything taken the place of Jesus in your life?