



May 7th

Passage: I John 1

Today we begin a new book of the Bible, I John. This is such a great book to learn the depth of who Jesus is and what He has come to equip us to do/be. I John is a great book for us to walk through as we spend our year FOCUSing on who Christ is and all we are called and enabled to do/be in and through Him.

We have many folks contributing to the devos in I John! I look forward to the journey. So let's dive in! A few quick things regarding the letter. Here are 3 things that John mentions. 3 reasons he is writing.

1. That your joy be full – (1:4)
2. That you may not sin – (2:1)
3. That you may know you have eternal life (5:13)

I'd say those are 3 good reasons to write....also....3 good reasons for us to read. Ready?

## **READ & DIG.** Read I John 1

Two sections to this first chapter. You'll notice that this doesn't start like most books. There is no "warm" greeting. No, John gets right to it. But in doing so he establishes one important thing.

### **WE**

No, John is not saying they have any special importance...but did you notice how he uses the word "WE?" Yes! He's using that word to say "WE" have seen JESUS.

He says this in the beginning for a reason. Everything you're going to hear from this point forward is coming from a person who was in a group that saw firsthand the one "from the beginning."

### **Notice how he goes on about it –**

We have heard, We have looked upon – We have touched  
We have seen – We have heard – We now proclaim – We are now WRITING

It's like this....John is laying out the reason why we can trust what we're about to read.  
We like having evidence to amazing truths right? John is saying...WE were there....  
Ok John....we got ya....now what?

### **THE MESSAGE (just look at the start of v.5)**

This is the heart of I John. This is what everything that follows will be centered around.

- God is light (in him no darkness at all)
- If we say we know him while walking in darkness, we lie
- If we walk in the light (God, through Christ) we will have fellowship (unity) with one another (Christians) AND the blood of Jesus cleanses us.
- God is faithful to forgive and cleanse, IF we confess and turn to Him.
- IF you say, "I've not sinned!" Well, you just made God a liar....meaning, you ain't in the Truth.

## **Apply & GO**

**We have a hope and joy in Christ that results in love to God and others.**

That's the direction we're heading in I John.

This news comes from people who were all up on the scene of Jesus.

It's penetrating, cuts deep, but is truth.

All for the purpose of pointing us to hope in Christ and a walk that reflects this same hope and joy.

