



## Finding True Life and Real Love

1 John 1:1-5 – 2:2

June 14, 2015  
Celebration | 8:45 am  
Elevation | 10:45 am  
Pastor David Mitchell

### **We need to share what “true life” in Christ means.** | John 1:5

*“This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.”*

- We reveal to all that we follow Christ.

John 1:6-9; 3:21; 8:12; 12:46

### **We must honestly admit our sinful problems.** | John 1:6, 8, 10

- Three false statements about our sin, when words and deeds do not match (John 3:19-21):

1. **My darkness** – I think my sin does not matter (v.6)  
*“If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness”*

John 3:19; 12:35

2. **My deception** – I rationalize and redefine my sin (v. 8)  
*“If we say that we have no sin we are deceiving ourselves”*

3. **My denial** – I stubbornly refuse to admit my sin, “I am ok” (v. 10)  
*“If we say that we have not sinned we make Him a liar”*

### **We trust in the power of Christ to change our lives.** | John 1:7, 9

- Trust in the sacrifice of Christ and the fellowship of His followers (v. 7)  
*“we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”*
- Confess our sins to be completely forgiven by Christ (v. 9)  
*“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”*

### **We grow in our faith by relying on the ongoing work of Christ.** | John 2:1-2

*“And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world”*

- Christ continually cares for us.
- We reach out and make His salvation known to others.

## Digging Deeper:

Today's passage begins this way, *"This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you..."* I John 1:5 We have a message and we need to announce it to others just as John did to His readers in what we today call Turkey. That message is the gospel of Jesus Christ and the faith to believe that Jesus has died for our sins. When that occurs, we walk in His Light.

## LifeGroup Discussion:

1. John loves to use the image of "light." Why is light important to us today? What function does it serve? Here are some thoughts:
  - Light penetrates cracks we may overlook.
  - Light reveals what we need to know or do.
  - Light directs our ways
  - Light attracts others to our way of life.
  - Light dispels darkness that can harm others.
2. Spiritually speaking, how does the light of Christ accomplish those things in our lives today?
3. What do the following scriptures teach you about living for Christ as light and avoiding the darkness of this world?
  - Matthew 5:14
  - Ephesians 5:8-10
  - Philippians 2:15
  - Colossians 1:12, 13
  - I Peter 2:9
4. What obstacle does Satan create to prevent unbelievers from seeing the gospel of Christ according to II Corinthians 4:4-6? How should the light still shine in your life? What ways can you make Christ known to those around you?
5. John challenges us to make sure we are true believers and followers of Christ. I John 1:6, 8, 10 calls out anyone that says they have no sin. John says anyone stating that is deceived and calling God a liar. Romans 3:23 assures us that all are sinners. We are tempted to say we follow Jesus but our actions do not reflect that we follow Jesus. Just saying we are a Christian does not make us a Christian. We are called to prove we have Christ by confessing our sins and living a new life. What does James 1:22-25 call us to do? How are you living that life?
6. I John 2:2 declares, *"and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."* Propitiation means satisfaction. God's wrath against our sin is satisfied by Jesus sacrifice for our sins. As we confess our sins to God, He is satisfied that our sins are forgiven. We then face no condemnation of judgment from God. Jesus died for the whole world as well. Who do you know that needs this forgiveness from Jesus Christ?
7. How will you make this message known to them as John models in I John 1:5 written below?  
*"This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you..."*

## Next Steps:

1. **Commit 1 John 1:9 to memory.** Download the verse background for your phone, tablet or computer as an everyday reminder of God's faithfulness and righteousness as you learn this verse. Downloads are available at [calvarylife.org/series](http://calvarylife.org/series)
2. **Connect at the Church Picnic today at 12:30 pm at Irvine Regional Park.** Bring \$5 for parking and meet at Group Area 4. Join the whole Calvary Church family for an old-fashioned church picnic, potluck style, with food, fun and fellowship. Details and directions at [calvarylife.org/picnic](http://calvarylife.org/picnic)
3. **Come to the 'Discover Your Purpose' class beginning Wednesday, June 17 at 7:00 pm in the Lobby.** Be equipped with how to serve and share your faith. In our "Discover Your Purpose" class where you'll discover your unique God-given spiritual gifts, and be provided with opportunities at Calvary and in the community which will allow you to use these gifts. Learn more at [calvarylife.org/discover](http://calvarylife.org/discover)
4. **Consider coming on the Calvary to Turkey Trip** to visit and learn about the region of the world where the epistles of John were written. For more information, visit the lobby table today or [calvarylife.org/turkey](http://calvarylife.org/turkey)