

Our Fellowship

1 John 1:1-10

Text: 1 John 1:3

1 John 1:3

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

Man's chief end is to glorify God. God has revealed His glory to men and men are to respond to that glory and men are to respond by giving glory, majesty, dominion, and power unto a glorious God.

All created things were brought into existence in order that they should glorify God.

One of the ways that we glorify God is by our fellowship with God. When Adam and Eve fell in the garden our fellowship with God was broken. We are made new creature through Christ in order that we may once again have fellowship with God and through our fellowship with Him we might bring glory to God.

Read Text

Because the scriptural concept of fellowship has been ambiguous to many believers, lets look to see what

God's Words has to say about this which will help us understand what constitutes fellowship.

The word fellowship means, "things held in common." It implies standing together on common ground. God desires to have a close, personal relationship with each believer, where God and the believer stand together on common ground.

Some may think that this sounds impossible, whoever God's Word in our text tell us exactly how this can take place.

It is God's desire for His children to live in fullness of joy. That is only possible when our fellowship with Him is what it should be.

Notice with me this morning from our text how that we can draw near to God, and remain there in sweet, wonderful fellowship.

Notice

1. WE MUST RECOGNIZE OUR SINS (1 JOHN 1:8,10)

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:10

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

- A. True fellowship with God hinges on admitting our sin.

- B. The world attempts to deal with sin in these ways.
 - 1. Evolution - Man is on his way up! Sin isn't an issue.

 - 2. Education - Man can be taught to live without sin.

 - 3. Science - Solve the problems and mysteries of nature and man can be set free from sin.

 - 4. Sociology - Sin is the by-product of an unhealthy environment.

 - 5. Psychology - Talk about yourself long enough, focus on what you need, and eventually you can eliminate your own guilt.

 - 6. Religion - Learn the doctrines, practice the rituals and do good things and you will feel better about yourself and God will accept you.

None of these work because none of them deal with the problem of sin.

2. WE MUST A REVEALING OF OUR SIN (1 JOHN 1:7)

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

A. Walking in the light does this.

1. Light reveals error

B. Before sin will be delt with it must be exposed to the light.

3. WE MUST REPENT OF OUR SIN (1 JOHN 1:9)

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A. What is repentance?

It is a total change of heart and mind resulting in a change of direction and action. True repentance always result in a radically changed relationship with God

B. When we truly repent our sin is forever removed from us and the guilt is replaced with peace and joy.

Hebrews 8:12

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Isaiah 43:25

I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Isaiah 1:18

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

4. WE MUST REST IN THE LORD (1 JOHN 1:9)

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A. If & Is

If we confess - He is faithful we can rest in this fact.