

1 John – Week 1

Because He Lives

Small Groups – Bethany Church Long Beach

Intro:

- What was “the takeaway” (the most important point) from Sunday’s sermon and/or the sermon text, in your opinion?
- What insight from Sunday’s sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Open: What childhood memory is as clear today as the day it happened?

Dig: What are three ways John, the author, personally experienced “the Word”? Why does the author make a point of his firsthand experience?

Reflect: When did Jesus become more than just a name to you?

Dig: What does it mean practically to “walk in the light”? To “walk in the darkness”?

Group Questions:

John provides a test by which we can know if we have fellowship with God (vv. 5-10).

- The first part of John's test concerns the way we live or "walk" (vv. 6-7). What is the relationship between our conduct and our claim to have fellowship with God?
- The second part of John's test concerns our attitude toward sin (vv. 8-10). What does our denial or confession of sin reveal about the reality of our relationship with God?
- Based on your study of this passage, what does it mean to have fellowship with God—and each other?
- Does John's test strengthen or weaken your assurance of fellowship with God? Explain.
- How can we enjoy a greater fellowship with those who know the Father and the Son?

Pray that the level of fellowship in your small group and at Bethany would be deepened and enriched.