

What About Fellowship?

(I John 1:1-2:2)
A study prepared for
the Berean Bible Class of
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Introduction:

The beloved Apostle John shares with the early church and with us the "secrets" of being able to have real fellowship with God and with one another. According to our text, we may enjoy the fellowship of which John writes by:

1. *Confirming* John's *source* of the gospel—1:1-4

- 1Jn 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
- 1Jn 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)
- 1Jn 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.
- 1Jn 1:4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.
 - A. The <u>eternality</u> of Christ—vs. 1a, 2c
 - B. The *experience* of John—vs. 1b, 2a
 - 1. He heard the Word
 - 2. He *heeded* the Word

- 3. He handled the Word
- C. The *expression* of the gospel—vs. 2b—4
 - 1. *Concerns* a witness—v. 2b
 - 2. <u>Centers</u> on the Savior—v. 3
 - 3. *Continues* to bring joy—v. 4

II. *Conforming* to the *standard* of God—vs. 5-7

- 1Jn 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
- 1Jn 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
- 1Jn 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. The *light* in God—v. 5
 - B. The *lies* of men—v. 6
 - C. The *liberty* to fellowship—v. 7

III. Confessing our sin because of the grace of God —vs. 1:8-2:2

- 1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,

- and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- 1Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
- 1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:
- 1Jn 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
 - A. The admission to our sin—vs. 8-10
 - B. The avoidance of our sin-v. 2:1a
 - C. The advocate for sin—vs. 2:1b-2
 - 1. The *Righteous*
 - 2. The *Redeemer*
 - a) For all saints
 - b) For all sinners

Is there anyone that comes to mind who could have benefitted from today's class? If so, do you suppose that the Lord would be pleased if you lovingly and sincerely invite them to NEXT week's class? Our next lesson is entitled, "Time to Take Your SAT."

