

Walking in the Light

Focus: As believers, we are called to walk in the light, confess our sin, and trust in Christ as our righteous advocate and sufficient sacrifice.

NW's 2018 Priority

Key Word: Bought

- **Bumper Sticker:** Bought: we belong to Christ!
- **Full statement of priority:** to be captivated by the truth that we belong to Christ, that we are His people...
 - such that, (these are the markers we are looking for increase in this year)
 - ...we would be in awe of this privilege (delight)
 - ...we would respond in willing obedience
 - ...we would invite others to join us! (evangelism)



Discussion:

Read 1 John 1:5-7

What does it mean that “God is light” (Ps 145:17)? How does that message relate to our fellowship with God? In other words, if God is light, what does fellowship with him require?

What does it mean to “walk in darkness”? How do we know if we are walking in darkness?

Is a verbal profession alone enough to be a Christian (Matt 7:20-24)?

Read 1 John 1:8-10

What are ways in which we might deny or redefine our sin? What does the Bible say about sin (Rom 3:23; Matt 5:21-22, 27-28; Col 3:5)?

How does confessing our sin help us to walk in the light? How can we make confession a daily practice? (Mark 1:35 → plan, place, practice). Why is it often helpful (or necessary) to confess our sins to others (James 5:16)?

Read 1 John 2:1-2

What does it mean that Jesus is our advocate (John 6:37-39)?

How is Jesus also our substitute? What is the meaning of propitiation? (wrath-removing/absorbing sacrifice).

Take time in prayer to confess sins and thank God for Jesus, our advocate and substitute. Ask God to give us the strength to expose our sins to the light so that we might experience the fulness of God’s forgiving and cleansing power.