

SERIES

LIVING IN THE LIGHT

John uses concepts of light and darkness as metaphor for several things throughout the book of 1 John and encourages us to experience four benefits of living in the light

[Online @ *pursueGOD.org/sermons*](https://pursueGOD.org/sermons)

- ❑ **Lesson #1**
Light Makes us Authentic
- ❑ **Lesson #2**
Light Helps Us Connect
- ❑ **Lesson #3**
Light Gives Us Assurance
- ❑ **Lesson #4**
Light Brings Us Discernment

Group Notes



✓ Step 1: Discover truth

>> Watch the lesson video online (see link above) and take notes below to prepare for a group conversation.

The book of 1 John uses the word "light" as a theme throughout the letter. In chapter 1, we will see how living in the light exposes the lies we believe, and shows us how to live authentic lives as Christians.

God is (1 John 1:5)

God's light exposes (1 John 1:6; Acts 2:37-38)

God's light exposes (1 John 1:8, 10)

Group Tip: Invite someone to lead **Step 1** by summarizing the talking points and adding personal insights or questions.

✓ Step 2: Talk about it

>> Use these questions to get your group talking.

1. Share a time when you were lost in or scared of the dark (lost in the woods at night, scared of a basement, etc.).
2. God began creation with light. What would life be like without it (no sun, no electricity, etc.)? Read [1 John 1:5](#). Share in your own words what it means that God has no darkness in Him.
3. Give some examples of how people live a phony faith (relationships, money, time, etc.)? Read [Luke 18:9-14](#). What did Jesus say about people with phony righteousness? How do religious people express phony righteousness today?
4. Read [Romans 6:1-2](#). Why do Christians often think that grace gives them permission to sin? Have you ever thought this way? Describe the "right attitude" of faith. What are some sins that people tend to minimize or rationalize? What is God's promise to us when we confess our sin ([1 John 1:9](#))?

Group Tip: Try adding some of your own questions.

✓ Step 3: Live it out

>> Do this to apply the truth you've talked about.

- ❑ Write a personal action step (below) based on what you've learned today.

Group Tip: Follow up on this in your next meeting.

Take the [Foundations](#) series to learn about the three basic truths of the Christian faith.



✓ Step 1: Discover truth

>> Watch the lesson video online (see link above) and take notes below to prepare for a group conversation.

Throughout 1 John we see the theme of light. In chapter 2, we will see how living in the light allows us to truly connect with God and others.

We were created for..... (1 John 1:7)

The world tempts us to connect in the (1 John 2:15-17)

The light teaches us to connect in the (1 John 2:7-8)

Group Tip: Invite someone to lead **Step 1** by summarizing the talking points and adding personal insights or questions.

✓ Step 2: Talk about it

>> Use these questions to get your group talking.

1. What is your favorite form of social media? Why? How is that better or worse than face-to-face relationships?
2. Read [1 John 1:3](#). List how fellowship with God is similar to relationships with others. List how it is different. Is it easier to connect in relationships today than in your parents' generation? Why or why not?
3. Read [1 John 2:16](#). List the three kinds of temptations from this verse. Give real life examples of each one. What does it mean that these things are "fading away" ([2:17](#))?
4. Describe how love for the world can compete with love for other people. Read [1 John 2:7-11](#). How can the command to love God and others be new and old at the same time? How did Jesus live the truth of this command?
5. Name some ways that living in God's light changes relationships. Why are broken relationships so out of step with living in light?

Group Tip: Try adding some of your own questions.

✓ Step 3: Live it out

>> Do this to apply the truth you've talked about.

- ❑ Write a personal action step (below) based on what you've learned today.

Group Tip: Follow up on this in your next meeting.

Take the [Foundations](#) series to learn about the three basic truths of the Christian faith.



✓ Step 1: Discover truth

>> Watch the lesson video online (see link above) and take notes below to prepare for a group conversation.

The book of 1 John uses the word "light" as a theme throughout the letter. In chapter 3, we see how living in the light gives us assurance of our salvation, offering us confidence based on the answer to three simple questions.

The Big Question: Have you _____ in Jesus? (1 John 5:13)

Evidence #1: Are you _____? (1 John 2:3)

Evidence #2: Do you _____ people? (1 John 3:14)

Group Tip: Invite someone to lead **Step 1** by summarizing the talking points and adding personal insights or questions.

✓ Step 2: Talk about it

>> Use these questions to get your group talking.

1. What are some funny (or tough) questions kids ask? What were some questions you had as a kid?
2. Read [1 John 3:23](#). Make a list of the fundamental things Christians believe about Jesus. (For help, check out the video [Make sure you get Jesus right](#).) Why is "trusting Jesus" so fundamental to the Christian faith?
3. Read [1 John 2:3](#). Why does obedience make us confident that we "know" God? Why does disobedience make us unsure? List the reasons. Read [1 John 3:9](#). What does it mean to "make a practice of sinning"?
4. Read [1 John 3:14](#). List the reasons it's hard to love (1) people in the church and (2) people outside of the church. Read [1 John 3:18-19](#). List some practical ways to love the people from (1) and (2) above.

Group Tip: Try adding some of your own questions.

✓ Step 3: Live it out

>> Do this to apply the truth you've talked about.

- ❑ Write a personal action step (below) based on what you've learned today.

Group Tip: Follow up on this in your next meeting.

Take the [Foundations](#) series to learn about the three basic truths of the Christian faith.



✓ Step 1: Discover truth

>> Watch the lesson video online (see link above) and take notes below to prepare for a group conversation.

The book of 1 John uses the word "light" as a theme throughout the letter. In chapter 4, we will see how God gives us the discernment we need to evaluate spiritual teaching.

Test all _____ teaching. (1 John 4:1)

Test teaching by using the _____. (1 John 4:2-3)

Be willing to _____ with God. (1 John 4:4-6)

Group Tip: Invite someone to lead **Step 1** by summarizing the talking points and adding personal insights or questions.

✓ Step 2: Talk about it

>> Use these questions to get your group talking.

1. Have you ever been duped or scammed (sold a lemon car, believed a bogus story)? Describe what happened.
2. Have you ever felt like it was wrong to question spiritual teaching or the faith you were raised with? Why do some people say or feel like it is?
3. Read [2 Timothy 4:3-5](#). Why is false teaching so appealing? What are the dangers of untested faith?
4. What are common ways people evaluate spiritual teaching? How are these good or bad?
5. Read [1 John 4:2-3](#). What are some of the claims false teachers are making today? (Read [Five Common Heresies](#).) Why is the Bible the best way to test spiritual teaching?
6. Why are people tempted to just go with the flow with spiritual teaching? Have you ever had to take an unpopular stand regarding spiritual truth? If so, describe. Read [1 John 4:5](#). How can we deal with the challenges of siding with an unpopular truth?

Group Tip: Try adding some of your own questions.

✓ Step 3: Live it out

>> Do this to apply the truth you've talked about.

- ❑ Write a personal action step (below) based on what you've learned today.

Group Tip: Follow up on this in your next meeting.

Take the [Foundations](#) series to learn about the three basic truths of the Christian faith.

