



BEREAN  
SMALL GROUPS

FOR THE GOSPEL  
ROMANS 1:16

## True Light

1 John 1:1-2:2

Read 1 John 1:1-2:2 together:

*That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*

*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

*My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*

### *Hypostatic Unity of Jesus Christ*

*The hypostatic union is Jesus Christ in two natures, without mixture, change, division, or separation; the difference of natures not being removed by their union, but rather the propriety of each nature being preserved and concurring in one person, so that he is not divided or separated into two persons, but the only Son, God, the Word, our Lord Jesus Christ, are one and the same person.*

## 3 Pillars of Christian Faith

### True Solidarity

- ? What is the difference between unity and solidarity? (vs. 3)
- ? What is invading our solidarity as believers today? Are these issues antithetical to the gospel? Why or why not?
- ? Define the gospel. Is the definition narrow or broad? Explain your answer.

- ? What is Gnosticism? Why does it insult Jesus Christ? Is this doctrine a perceived or real threat to Christianity? Why or why not?
- ? How does Mormonism differ from Christianity? Doesn't it sound very similar to Christianity? What makes this false doctrine dangerous?

## True Reality

- ? Why is it vital to describe the problem before coming up with a solution? Why is it often hard to follow this logic?
- ? What is the greatest problem with humanity? In response to this question, G.K. Chesterton said: "I am." Is he right or wrong? Why?
- ? God is Light:
  - o Have you changed your ways since becoming a Christian?
  - o Is that a fair question for those who accepted Jesus as their personal Savior at a very young age? Why or why not?
  - o How can your transformation story be a part of transforming others?
- ? The Defection of Sin:
  - o What is the difference between shame and conviction? Why does it matter?
  - o It's quite easy to rationalize sin as copasetic. How do we most often do this and why?
  - o Why do we often measure our sin against the sin of someone else rather than using the Word of God?

## True Relationship

- ? Read 1 John 1:9. Why is confession a non-negotiable in the Christian life?
- ? What happens when we fail to confess sin? Why do we fail to confess sin when we can do it at any moment?
- ? Why is it a mind-blowing truth to know that we have an advocate before the Father?
- ? Propitiation: "An appeasement of the wrath of God by the love of God through the gift of the Son of God."

### Propitiation:

*"An appeasement of the wrath of God by the love of God through the gift of the Son of God."*

- o Propitiation is fundamental and transformational. Why do we take it for granted?
- o Read Romans 6:1-4:  
*What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."*

Proverbs 14:12