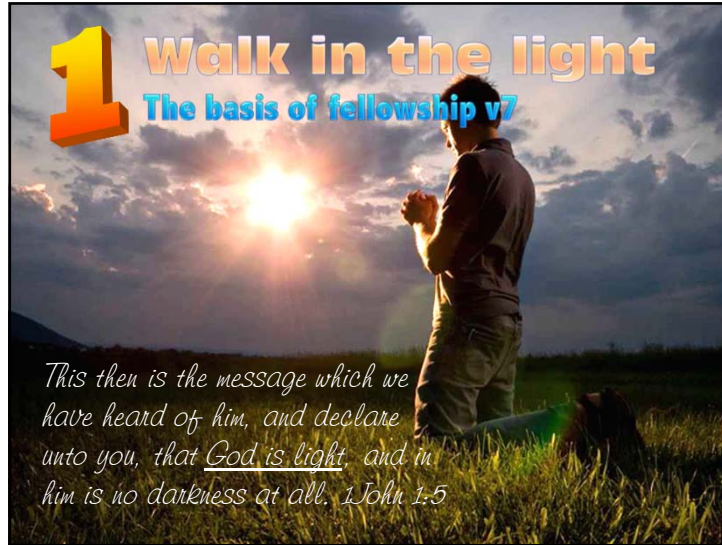




The Word of Life

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;

The two disciples (John & Andrew) **heard him speak**, and they followed Jesus. Jn 1:37

Theaomai: To give careful contemplation, look very closely at, (used of public shows, Eng "theatre") Jn 1:14 "we **beheld** his glory"

Pselaphao "to handle, view with investigation, feel like a blind man" Used LXX Gen 27:22 when Isaac "felt" Jacob. *Lk 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: **handle** me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. Jesus was no phantom or apparition.*

The Word of Life

of the Word of **life**;
(For the **life** was **manifested**,
and we have seen it, and
bear witness, and show unto
you that eternal **life**, which
was with the Father, and was
manifested unto us)

Jn 1:4 In him was **life**; and the **life** was the light of men.

The Word of Life

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;
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**);
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.
4 And these things write **we** unto you, that your joy may be full.
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.

6 If **we** say that **we** have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, **we** lie, and do not the truth:
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.
8 If **we** say that **we** have no sin, **we** deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in **us**.
9 If **we** confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us **our** sins, and to cleanse **us** from all unrighteousness.
10 If **we** say that **we** have not sinned, **we** make him a liar, and his word is not in **us**.

Fellowship

3 That ye also may have **fellowship** with us: and truly our **fellowship** is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
6 If we say that we have **fellowship** with him, and walk in darkness, we lie
7 But if **we** walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** one with another...

The life is shared - we will want to share it with others..

*That we might have **fellowship** v3*

*That we might have **joy** v4*

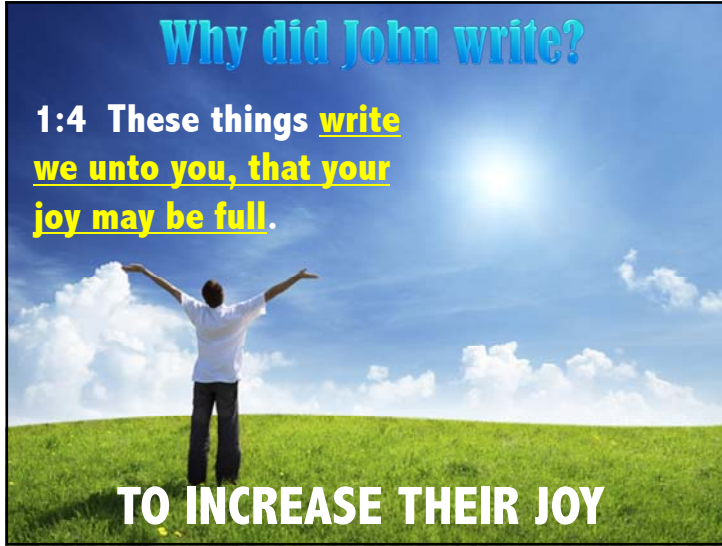
*That we might have **clarity** v5*

*That we might have **honesty** v6*

*That we might have **forgiveness** v7-10*

Why did John write?

1:4 These things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.



TO INCREASE THEIR JOY

God is...

There are 4 absolute statements about God that have practical implications:

- God is Light:** 1Jn 1v5.
Therefore we must walk in His revealed light.
- God is Love:** 1Jn 4v8.
Therefore we must manifest His type of love.
- God is Spirit:** Jn 4v24.
Therefore worship Him with emotion and in truth
- God is a consuming Fire:** Heb 12v29.
Therefore we show reverence and awe to Him.



God is Light

Light is an essential element that provides life and warmth for growth. It also provides illumination, enlightenment, knowledge and understanding. It dispels darkness, fear and the unknown.



Light is therefore a figure for everything that is positive - from Truth and goodness, to joy and vigour. Conversely darkness is figurative of ignorance and error.

God is Light

Ps 27:1,2 Yahweh is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. Yahweh protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid

Ps 36:9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Ps 43:3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

Ps 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Isa 60:1-3 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of Yahweh is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people... but the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.



God is Light

John 1:4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men... the true light which gives light to every man.

John 12:36 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.

1Pet 2:9 Proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

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.

God is Light

“Darkness is not in him never...”

“from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. James 1:17

“Darkness is not in him”

“They had gods that could cheat and lie, gods licentious and unchaste, gods spiteful and malignant towards men, quarrelsome and abusive toward each other. They had been accustomed to think of the gods as having a mixed nature like their own, only on a larger scale of good and evil, kind and cruel, pure and wanton, made of darkness and light.”

What if?

3 CONDITIONS
3 CAUTIONS
3 CORRECTIVES
3 CONSEQUENCES

6 If we say that we have fellow-ship with darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

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.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

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

What if?

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, **we lie**, and do not love the truth.

7 But **if we walk in the light**, the fellowship one with another, and the Son cleanseth us from all sin.

8 **If we say** that we have no sin, the truth is not in us.

9 **If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 **If we say** that we have not sinned, we make his word false, and his word is not in us.

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

V6 A DENIAL OF HUMAN SINFULNESS
UNAFFECTED
- CLEANSE

V8 A DENIAL OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF SIN
UNAWARE
- CONFESS

V10 A DENIAL OF THE PRACTICE OF SIN
UNCONCERNED
- CONQUER



Sin distorts

"Often we live our lives thinking that there are no serious issues, and compared to others we are doing OK. The frightening reality is that we may be obese with sin and not living the truth, but living a lie" v8 paraphrase

No sin?

Gen 3:12 The woman whom **thou gavest to be with me**, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat

Prov 30:20 Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eats, and wipes her mouth, and saith, **I have done no wickedness.**

Prov 7:13-14 She threw her arms around the young man, kissed him, looked him straight in the eye, and said, **"I made my offerings today** and have the meat from the sacrifices."

1Sam 15:13, 20 Saul said unto Samuel, Blessed be thou of the LORD: **I have performed the commandment of the LORD...** Yea, **I have obeyed the voice of the LORD**, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me...

2Sam 12:5 David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, **the man that hath done this thing** shall surely die

Pardon & Purity

CONFESSION

GET REAL *11:10-11*

Homo (same) *logeo* (to speak) = To be in **agreement with God** concerning the acts we have committed.

Prov 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso **confesseth AND forsaketh** them **shall have mercy.**

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.**

v8 If we say that we have no **sin** we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

v9 If we **confess** our **sins**, he is faithful and just to forgive us our **sins**, and to cleanse us from **all unrighteousness.**

v10 If we say that we have not **sinned**, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Is 43:25 I am he that blots out your transgressions for mine own sake, and **will not remember** your sins.

1Jn 1:7 If we walk in the light, as he is in the light... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from **all sin.**

Ps 51:9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out **all** mine iniquities.

Isa 38:17 Thou hast cast **all my sins** behind thy back.

ALL SIN

Lev 16:21 ...and confess over him **all** the iniquities of the children of Israel, and **all** their transgressions in **all** their sins...

v22 And the goat shall bear upon him **all** their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

Mic 7:18,19 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardons iniquity... He delights in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast **all their sins** into the depths of the sea.

Ps 103:3-4 Who forgives **all thine iniquities**; who heals all thy diseases

Isa 55:7 ...let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for **he will abundantly pardon.**

Matt 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you **All manner of sin** and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men

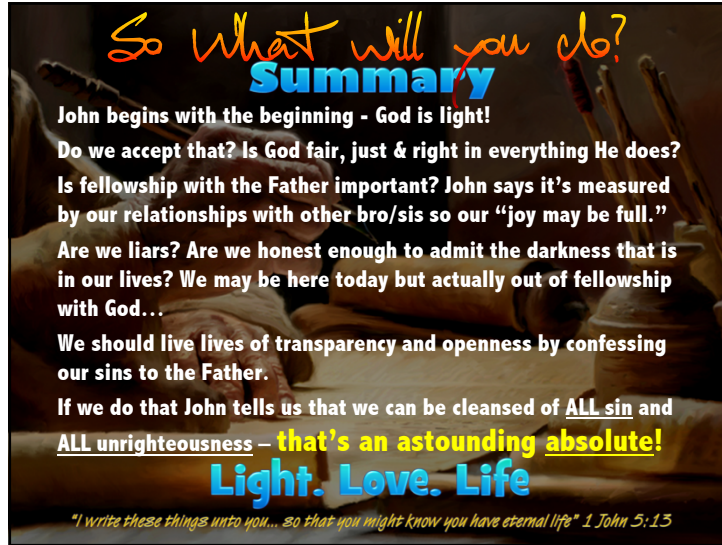
What does confession require?

- Understanding and accepting the gravity of our sins before God
- Acknowledging we need the help of others
- Accepting our accountability to the Ecclesia
- Being willing to suffer pain as we expose our personal shame

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed"
James 5:16

"Who is a God like unto thee, that pardons iniquity? ...He retains not his anger for ever, **because he delights in mercy.** He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; **He will subdue our iniquities**; and thou wilt cast **all** their sins (LXX sink our iniquities) **into the depths of the sea.**" *Nicah 7:18-19*

Total Forgiveness



So what will you do?
Summary

John begins with the beginning - God is light!

Do we accept that? Is God fair, just & right in everything He does?

Is fellowship with the Father important? John says it's measured by our relationships with other bro/sis so our "joy may be full."

Are we liars? Are we honest enough to admit the darkness that is in our lives? We may be here today but actually out of fellowship with God...

We should live lives of transparency and openness by confessing our sins to the Father.

If we do that John tells us that we can be cleansed of ALL sin and ALL unrighteousness – **that's an astounding absolute!**

Light. Love. Life

"I write these things unto you... so that you might know you have eternal life" 1 John 5:13