

DISCOVERING AUTHENTIC CONNECTION

PART THREE: LEARNING TO USE THE WALKER

1 John 2:1-6 ♦ Pastor Dean Lancaster ♦ September 17, 2023

Walking in the light is the secret of fellowship. God has given us the power and actions that allow us to “Walk in the Light.”

Before we can use these resources, we must eradicate three falsehoods that suppress the Light and cut off our fellowship from Him and from each other:

First, we could ignore the Light.

1 John 2:1–2 *My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

Ignoring our darkness allows us to easily ignore the light .

I am the one Jesus came to save because I needed saving .

How do we walk in the Light? Admit Jesus’s sacrifice was necessary for me.

Second, we could deny we sin.

1 John 2:3–4 *We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.*

We can mistakenly tell ourselves that knowledge about Jesus equals knowing Jesus.

How do we walk in the Light? Abolish the lies I tell myself .

Loving others as Jesus loved us is proof that we know Him.

Third, we could rationalize the sins the light reveals.

1 John 2:5–6 *But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.*

How do we walk in the Light? Acquire Jesus’ actions for ourselves.

Utilizing the Bible allows us to walk consistently with Jesus.

By walking in the Light regularly, we maintain our connection with God and each other.

Take this with you...

We walk in the light which is necessary to walk with each other .

Through love, we overlook faults and remain steadfast when disappointed by others.

This love only comes to us as we use God’s Walker to walk in the Light.

Closeness to Jesus brings closeness to one another .