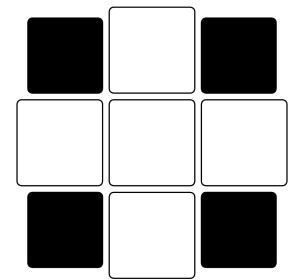


The Link Between Fellowship and Joy

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-10

Sunday, December 28, 2014



REDEEMER
FELLOWSHIP

Overview

Fellowship with God leads to true and lasting joy. But to experience that joy, we must first understand the facts.

Discussion Questions

1. How was your 2014? What were the highlights? What were the challenges? How have you experienced growth in fellowship with God and joy in the Lord during this past year?
2. In verses 1-4 we learn that John is an expert eyewitness to the life of Jesus Christ. How does this add to the credibility of what he has to say about fellowship and joy? What else about John's life adds credibility to this testimony?
3. What are the barriers to fellowship with God? How has God overcome those barriers? How are people brought into fellowship with God?
4. What do we mean when we talk about joy? What does true and lasting joy look like? What are threats to your joy? How can you stay grounded in true joy? [seeing the end in the midst of the troubles of now]
5. What are the things that rob us from fellowship? [love of sin, work of the enemy, love of the world, false teaching]
6. What protects our fellowship with God? [right and good theology] What are some of these facts as seen from 1 John 1:1-10? [incarnation, atonement, regeneration]
7. What do we learn about God in verses 5-10? What is the role of holiness in fellowship with God? What does verse 8 say about who we are? [we're sinners] Why are we prone to self-deception about sin? How did Pat's illustration about sports help us understand this?
8. We see through marketing and culture an attitude that we have to have it all together. What are some ways that you've seen this? What is the truth about who we are? How do we foster vulnerability about sin and holiness?
9. What do we learn about God's response to this problem in verse 7? What is our responsibility as conveyed in verse 9? How will you go and live this out this week?