Fellowship with God and the Church

Scripture: 1 John 1:3

Series: Doctrine and Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Corroborating Texts: Romans 10:9-17; 2 Cor. 5:17-20

Overview

Christians must be in fellowship with God and with His people.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why is independence important? Why does independence need to be limited? Rehearse God's work of rescuing us from our declared independence to bring us back into fellowship with him. Tell that gospel story to one another.
- 2. Why must Christianity be a <u>vocal</u> faith? What issues today might Christians be silent about when there is a need to speak about them?
- 3. Why are people often turned off from fellowship in the church? How have these obstacles played out in your life? What are socio-cultural barriers from fellowship in Church? [race, wealth, age, gender, politic, philosophy] How does Christ abolish those barriers?
- 4. What is fellowship with God? [a partnership, kinship, interdependent relationship where we depend on one another] What prevents fellowship with God? [sin and judgment] How must these barriers be removed?
- 5. What are a couple of things we might settle for instead of communion? [performance/ obedience] What is the problem with settling for these inferior attitudes towards our relationship with God? What does true communion look like? In what way do you feel like you have that right now? In what way do you feel like you may not have that right now?
- 6. How do we go about fellowshipping with God? [We go to him to hear him speak by going to his Word. We go to him and speak to him through prayer.] How are you doing with these two components of fellowship with him? How might these disciplines strengthen if you exercise them in fellowship with other Christians? How are you doing this? What opportunities are you missing? What opportunities are you capitalizing on?

