

7Day

Am I Important?

To see how important you can be:

Read the booklet

Answer the questions

7 days

Your PERSONAL

Answers

7Day
Done

7ddd.info

Am I Important? v. 1

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Presented by Al

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This book is part of the 7D Series.

Bible quotes are from the King James Version, at times updated by the author.

The author also does his own translation from the original Greek. The translation in bold is one he developed to give more info on what is actually in the text.

All images were created by the author from scratch.

In the 7D Series:

Why Do I Exist – Why Do I Suffer?

Am I Important?

What Did Jesus Do For Me?

Did I Do the Sin to Death?

How You Fit In with God

27 Way the Bible Makes Me Better at Work

What Type of Christian Am I?

Everything is written with a conservative Christian viewpoint in mind.

This book simply offers information and/or experiences and may invite you to compare your experiences with what is in this book.

This book is derived from [God WANTS You: Sin Is Not a Deal Breaker.](#)

Notes: This material is divided into 4 parts: *The Study*; *The Articles*; *The Workbook*; *Did I Really Learn It?*

The *Workbook* and *Did I Really Learn It* questions are all keyed to the verse numbers in the *Study*

Be sure to answer the questions- they are at the end of this booklet

I include 2 Bible translations. The one in small letters is the King James Version update. The one in bold is one I developed to give more info on what is actually in the text.

This material is derived from God WANTS You.

This book may have dated ideas. For the most recent see the God WANTS You journals.

1 John 1

Insight 1 God WANTS You

Little Children: conditional, cancelable commitment to God

God works to have a relationship with you

1:1-10 God works to have a relationship with you.

1:1-4 Being in a relationship with God, one based on having a commonality with God, a likeness with God, is really really possible.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard,

1:1 What was from [the] origination point, what we with continuing results have heard,
which we have seen with our

what we with continuing results have seen and (experientially) comprehended, with *our
eyes, which we have looked upon, and our

^eyes, what we looked at closely and thoroughly and thoughtfully comprehended, and *our
hands have handled, of the Word of life;

**^hands verified by contact, encircling the logical presentation, of the life; ability and
controlling of circumstances for the good of others and self;**

1:1 First of all, John wants us to know that what he is talking about is really really real. He and others had experienced Jesus Christ. They had personally experienced a Person who really lived by God's lifestyle principles. They had seen Jesus, talked with Him, touched Him. They had experienced how Jesus lived among people. They had also seen how He affected people. There was no guesswork here. They had spent 3 years with Him, day and night. They saw a Man who lived the way God wants all people to live and they had seen the effects.

But it went further than that. They experienced a Person who passes on the information to us of how we should and can live so we affect others the way God wants us to. Jesus is the exact expression, the logical presentation- the Word, of how we should live so we affect others the way God wants us to affect them- the Life, and He passes on the information so we can live and will live the same lifestyle and have the same affects. They had experienced "The Word of The Life", the logical presentation of the lifestyle principles we need to live by so we can affect others around us in the ways we are meant to by God the Father.

Life, the life Jesus shows us, isn't just to be living and breathing. Dogs do that. Life, the Life Jesus informs us of and John is talking about, eternal life, is to be living in such a way that we influence God and people in the way God wants us to so people worship God and end up blessed by God. Life involves living by God's lifestyle principles so God is glorified and we end up blessed. And Jesus is the logical presentation of this. He is the full exact expression of this. He is The Word of The Life.

They had seen a Person who affected others the way God wants us to affect others, and Who shows us how to do the same. They had seen a living presentation of God's lifestyle principles in action and their effect.

***Eternal Life** living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed. The lifestyle principles we should live by.*

***Life** the ability to affect God, people, circumstances, and/or others*

***Word** the expression, the logical presentation*

(For the life

1:2 **exactly also, the life; ability and controlling of circumstances for the good of others**

was manifested, and we have

and self, was revealed in its true character so it is understandable, and we with continuing

seen it, and bear witness, and

results have seen and (experientially) comprehended, and we are witnessing to, and

show to you that eternal life,

we are reporting; explaining, to you, *the *eternal ^life; living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life, so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed; the eternal lifestyle principles we should live by; everlasting life with God,

which was with the Father,

which same, was having intertwinement with, the Father; originator (of a group); one worthy of honor; one who cares for others; one with authority,

and was manifested to us;)

and was revealed in its true character so it is understandable to us;

1:2 "The life was manifested, made to appear, made apparent." Note that John does not say Jesus the Man who did what God wanted and had the effect God wanted was made to appear, or that the Word- the presentation of how we should live and the effects of that- was made to appear. No, John says the "life" was made to appear. The lifestyle principles we should live by so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have, this is what appeared. How we should live and the effects that will have on others, this is what appeared. This is what John and the others fully experienced and took in to the point they really understood it. And this is what John and his companions are telling us about.

This life was "the eternal life". Eternal life. Just what did John see when he saw eternal life? He couldn't see foreverness. He couldn't see Jesus in pure God form when Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit existed before the universe was even created. He couldn't see Jesus 10,000 years in the future. Just what did John see when he saw eternal life? He saw God's lifestyle principles being lived out and affecting people and others (think angels here) right here in life on this planet. God's lifestyle principles are eternal. They existed before this universe did. They are the principles God lives by. God is eternal, and so are the principles He lives by. God does not change the principles He lives by. They are the same now and forever. John saw life. He saw something that affected others in the various circumstances of life. John saw these principles being lived by the One- Jesus- who had been living these principles toward God the Father before He- Jesus- was born and in fact before the universe was born, and these exact same principles were lived out by the exact same Person in the presence of John so thoroughly that John and the others with him understood them.

And they not only saw the eternal principles being lived out, they saw their effects. They saw the influence of these principles, and the effect was that God was glorified and people were blessed. And living out the eternal principles in the various circumstances of life so they have the effect God intends is eternal life.

The Eternal Life. Jesus is The Way, The Truth, and The Life. He is The Eternal Life. He is the One who lives out God's eternal principles and thereby brings out God's desired effects. First Christ did it in His body, and now He does it in yours as He lives IN you, which is covered in 2:20.

That which we have seen and

1:3 what we with continuing results have seen and (experientially) comprehended, and

heard declare we to you,

we with continuing results have heard, we are reporting; explaining, {also} to you,

that you also may have fellowship with us: and

in order that; explanation: exactly also, you *might have, commonality with us; and

truly our fellowship is with the Father,

*** continuing in this topic or context *^*our ^commonality [is] with the Father; originator (of a group); one worthy of honor; one who cares for others; one with authority,**

and with his Son Jesus

and with His Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation, Jesus; Savior; Yahweh

Christ.

is salvation, Christ; Anointed,

1:3 John is presenting this message so his readers- that would be you and me- will have commonality with him. This isn't just a friendship fellowship type of thing. This is a similarity type of thing. Jesus exposed God's lifestyle principles with their corresponding effects to us. These principles changed John, how he lived and why he did what he did. John absorbed these principles into his very being. John had entered into commonality with God in his lifestyle. You could watch John, within limits, and see what God is like. He was changed. And John is presenting this information so his readers will go through the same process, and have similarity with John and with God. This is what John means when he talks about "fellowship" or, more accurately, "commonality".

Commonality

having (or promoting via a contribution) a likeness, a similarity, a common set of traits, and on that basis to be a part of a group and participate in what the group does and in one another's lives, with a commitment to the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of lives, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. More specifically, in 1 John, having the similarity or common set of traits of living by God's implanted lifestyle principles (though imperfectly for everyone except Jesus) and thus participating in a group, and what it does and in one another's lives, that includes God and God's followers due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of our lives with Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit and with each other, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. It includes and shows in living in unconditional commitment ('love') to people in the group, placing the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being. And, in this universe, Jesus is also in a commonality with the Father and the Holy Spirit due to living by the Father's lifestyle principles (which Jesus passes down to us).

In the context of having the same lifestyle principles, having (or creating) in common (sharing) a mutual group.. bond.. source.. resources.. capabilities.. taking on of responsibilities for each other.. goals.. blessings.. joy.. activities.. life..

Commonly translated "fellowship" in 1 John.

We discuss how we get this commonality in 2:20.

And we really need to note that John doesn't say our commonality due to similarity is with "God" but with the Father and with the Son Jesus Christ. John breaks down the Godhood into 2 of the Persons of God, the Father and the Son Jesus Christ. The Father and the Son have fellowship, a commonality due to similarity. What is that similarity? They live by the same lifestyle principles. In the Gospel of John

we see Jesus saying He only did what He saw the Father doing. Jesus always and only did what God the Father did the way the Father did it. Jesus lived by the lifestyle principles He saw the Father living by. In eternity past, before the universe was formed, the 3 Persons of the Trinity took on roles. One role was that God the Father would decide what lifestyle principles of God would be shown in this universe, and God the Son took on the role of translating those principles into something we can understand and do, and of passing them on to us. In this universe this is the commonality of those 2. It is their similarity. It is the basis of their fellowship. And John had entered into this commonality, and he is inviting us to do the same.

And John takes this one step further. He doesn't just say we have fellowship or commonality (a relationship based on likeness or similarity) with Jesus or with the Son or with the Christ. He says we have commonality with the Son Jesus Christ. Now why would he use all 3 words? Because each of those words is important. The word "Son" reminds us that Jesus has a relationship with the Father. The Father is the originator of how Jesus acts. The Father provides the lifestyle principles Jesus lives by. Jesus acts like the Father. The word "Jesus" deals with His relationship with us. The word "Jesus" means "God is salvation". Jesus is the source of our salvation, of our restoration to relationship with God, and the One Who brings it about in us. Through Him we have forgiveness of sins, and transformation so we do right instead of sinning. And the word "Christ" deals with Jesus being the One between God and man, between God and me and you. The word "Christ" means "anointed one". As the anointed One Jesus is receiving the lifestyle principles of God the Father and He is passing them on to you. Anointing deals with how Jesus comes to be like the Father and how we come to be like Jesus. So John is not just using a long title for Jesus, he is bringing out a fuller understanding of what is going on when we have commonality with the Father and with Jesus. (Also see 3:23 and 4:22 on Who Jesus Is.)

John talks about "we" having heard and "we" proclaiming. He wasn't the only one who had entered into commonality with God and with each other back then. And they as a group were then, and through 1st John now are, inviting us to enter into this same commonality. This is available to you today.

And these things write we to you, that your

1:4 And these [things] {we} we are writing, <to you>, in order that; explanation: *our

joy may be full.

^ (cause of) calm delight, might be, having been with current results filled.

1:4 There is a reason John and the others wrote this letter. It is so "our" (John and the others with him) joy, or "your" (John's readers) joy, will be complete. And when John talks about "our" joy he could be including both them and us. Whose joy specifically John is referring to depends on which Greek text you use. It really is not a major deal either way. Joy is completed. And why is it completed? Because as we respond to God's message for us and live by God's lifestyle principles we live God's way. Instead of trying to take advantage of each other we live in unconditional commitment to each other, making each other's lives better. And that is a good thing indeed for each of us. That gives us joy. And furthermore, as we have commonality with each other we glorify God, and since that is the ultimate goal of our lives- or at least it should be- we have joy as we see our ultimate goal met more and more. And we can also have the joy of a friendship type of fellowship that comes from having a similarity with each other. And undoubtedly God will give us joy because He is pleased with us.

1:1-4 In the 1st 4 verses John has made the point that being in a relationship with God, one based on having a commonality with God, a likeness with God, is really really possible.

1:5-10 In the next verses John makes the point that God is all about forming relationships with us, and he discusses our sinfulness- the relationship disrupter- in that context.

1:5-7 Light vs. Dark. God seeks relationship. Always.

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and

1:5 And ^this is the message which we with continuing results have heard from Him and

declare to you, that God is light,

we are making known to you, that the God *is light that enables discernment; principles and acts that attract others to commonality with God and darkness; principles and acts that attract from commonality with God and to commonality with Satan; absence of light where things contrary to light can be done

and in him is no darkness at all.

***is absolutely not in the sphere of influence of Him not even one [part].**

1:5 God is light. This does not mean God is sinless (though He certainly is). The word "light" refers to being committed to seeking relationships based on having the commonality of eternal life, of God's lifestyle principles IN us. It does not refer to sinfulness. So when John says God is light he means God is totally committed to forming relationships with us by having something in common with us. Light has to do with forming relationships. God goes to great lengths to form relationships with us. There is absolutely nothing in God that He does or wants to do that will lead to no relationship. Or even to a reduced relationship. As long as there is a possibility of a relationship based on commonality. God wants and strives to have a relationship with each and every person. That relationship is based on a likeness, a commonality of having eternal life, God's lifestyle principles IN us. Jesus made this message quite clear to John, in His words and in His lifestyle. And John was passing the message on.

There is no dark in God. God never turns down the possibility of a relationship based on commonality. Nor does He weaken one.

Light *being committed to having relationships based on having a likeness, a commonality, and in 1 John the commonality is the sharing of God's lifestyle principles.*

It does not refer to sinfulness.

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and

1:6 If possibly we might say that *we are having commonality with Him and

walk in darkness,

*** we are // might be living as a lifestyle, in the sphere of influence of the darkness; principles and acts that attract from commonality with God and to commonality with Satan; absence of light where things contrary to light can be done,**

we lie, and do not the truth:

we are lying; deceiving, and absolutely not, we are doing, the truth; reality;

1:6 The opposite of light in nature is dark. Dark in this case refers to not seeking a relationship with others, specifically a relationship based on the commonality of having God's lifestyle principles IN us guiding us. If we are truly in commonality with God, and God is seeking commonality with all people, then we will also be seeking commonality with all people, since that will be part of being in commonality with God, being like God. You cannot be failing to seek this kind of relationship with someone and be in commonality with God. Failing to seek this kind of relationship with someone is to live in darkness. Doing darkness is the opposite of living by God's lifestyle principles, especially of seeking a relationship based on having the same lifestyle principles, and thus darkness is the opposite of being in commonality with God. If you say you are living in commonality with God and yet fail to live in light you are lying about how you are living and you are not living by God's lifestyle principles.

Living in darkness means living without seeking a relationship of commonality with someone.

***Darkness** not seeking a relationship of commonality with others, specifically a relationship based on the commonality of having God's lifestyle principles IN us guiding us.*

It does not refer to sinfulness.

But if we walk

1:7 continuing in this topic or context, if possibly, * we might be living as a lifestyle,

in the light,

in the sphere of influence of the light that enables discernment; principles and acts that attract others to commonality with God,

as he is in the light,

comparably as He is in the sphere of influence of the light that enables discernment; principles and acts that attract others to commonality with God,

we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus

*** we are having, commonality with one another, and the blood of Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation,**

Christ his Son

Christ; Anointed, *His ^ Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation,

cleanses us from all sin.

is cleansing us from every sin; not-witness with its rewards.

1:7 This is not to say there is no connection between sin and having a relationship with God. If you are living in light like God is, seeking relationships with others based on God's eternal lifestyle principles, we not only have commonality with God, we have commonality with each other. We have the same set of lifestyle principles guiding us. We don't follow those principles perfectly, toward God or toward other people, but they are our goal. And when we fail to live by those principles? That's where Jesus steps in with the job He is doing for you today. He applies God's mercies to your life. You receive a setting aside of your sin (forgiveness). And Jesus cleans you up. Jesus is in the process of transforming you, of changing you so you do things God's way. Which means no sin. It's a process. Slowly, day by day, Jesus is injecting His blood (a little mysticism here!) into you. The life is in the blood. The lifestyle principles of God are in the blood of Jesus. And His blood flows in you more and more, bringing God's lifestyle principles into your life more and more. Until that process is complete, you will sin at times. Many times. But over time you will sin less and less. You will become more and more righteous in your acts. Jesus will need to apply God's mercies of forgiveness and of transformation less and less often. And in the next life you will not sin at all. Then you will have full commonality with God in the area of the lifestyle principles you live by.

So we seek to have a relationship based on commonality with each other. That commonality is disturbed by sin. And Jesus is working on us so we sin less and less and have greater commonality over time.

As a sidenote, it appears that the more we respond to God's teachings the more God influences us, which means the more we respond to God's teachings the more the blood of Jesus flows through us. The concept of blood and commonality is part of the topic of a blood covenant relationship, which is what we are in, but that is a separate discussion. The book to read on this is Blood Covenant by H.C. Trumbull.

1:8-10 *Sin in the context of light. We disrupt the relationship with sin, and Jesus deals with it for us.*

If we say that we have no sin,

1:8 **If possibly we might say that *absolutely not* we are having sin; not-witness with its rewards,**

we deceive ourselves, and the truth

***ourselves we are (causing to) roam (from safety, truth, virtue) and the truth; reality**

is not in us.

***is absolutely not in the sphere of influence of us.**

1:8 Up to this point John hasn't given us the outline to his book. I don't think he even knew it yet. So he hasn't said so, but what he has written so far is mainly directed to new Christians, people who have not matured in Christ. These are people who don't have a great understanding of Christianity. They don't know how they fit in, or even how to fit in. They are trying Christianity out. And one of the

errors non-Christians commonly make, and these new Christians would bring in with them, is the idea that Christians are sinless. (Wouldn't that be nice!) There are some mature Christians who make this same error, but they are rare. And what does John say?

John says that if you try to claim you are sinless that you lack God's truth. And that could mean you are not really a Christian, since Jesus is The Truth. And in the Greek John does say The Truth. But with the way Greek works John may have just been referring to truth itself. Taking 2:1 into account it is apparent John is talking to Christians. So John is telling these new Christians that if they claim to be sinless they are deceiving themselves and the truth of the situation is not yet part of their thinking.

New Christians might be tempted to think, or make the mistake of thinking, that because they are seeking relationships with others based on God's eternal lifestyle principles that they do not sin. They see the relationships being formed, and might conclude from that that they have arrived at a state of sinlessness. They have made an erroneous connection between relationships forming and sinlessness. So they can deceive themselves and think they are sinless, when in fact they are starting to live by light, forming relationships, and still have sin to deal with.

And this is a tempting thought- being sinless. Sin is the problem. And here is what seems to be a solution. Relationships forming and growing happens. They see it in their own lives. And if they have falsely equated relationships and sinlessness, they can think they have arrived at the goal of being fully right with God.

It is also possible for people to claim to be sinless for sinful reasons, such as pride or seeking to be someone important. These people may or may not be blinded to the truth as they seek their sinful goal.

"Sin not we are having." This phrase shows that the sin being talked about is ongoing, continuous, not just an isolated incident here and there. It matches up with the phrase "sin not he is doing" in 3:9. They refer to the same idea of ongoing sin. They both use 'sin' singular as the noun. 1:8 may also refer to ongoing sinfulness that the individual sins come from, but both phrases refer to the sins themselves as well. It is important to see that the 2 phrases refer to the same idea of ongoing sin, since it is common now to try to make it seem that only 3:9 refers to the idea of ongoing sin and that error is reflected in modern translations.

The sin referred to in 1:8 is multiple types of sin. You will fall into each of them again and again. You will do each type over and over until Jesus deals with that type of sin in you. He will eliminate each type of sin when He wants, for His purposes. 3:9 actually refers to only one type of sin, which we deal with starting in 3:4.

If we confess our sins,

1:9 If possibly, we might acknowledge, *our ^ sins; not-witnessing with their rewards,

he is faithful and just to

*** He is, one who is trusting and trustworthy, and standard meeting, in order that;**

forgive us *our* sins,

explanation: **He might send forth or away along with any obligation or bondage, *the *sins; not-witnessing with their rewards, for or associated with us,**

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

and He might cleanse us from every (life or act of) trait of violating obligatory standards of fellowship and thus rights and privileges of others.

1:9 Instead of trying to claim to be sinless, we need to admit to our sins and rely on Jesus to do His job. And what does Jesus do?

I have a different way of looking at this than most people. Where translations tend to say He "forgives" us, that is, He sets aside our guilt for sinning, I think John is referring to actually setting aside our sinfulness. The basic idea of the Greek word translated "forgive" is actually "set aside", so I let the word mean what it most basically means. Jesus is actually setting aside our sinfulness, transforming us. He is changing us so we live more and more by the eternal lifestyle principles of God. Over time our different types of sinning are set aside and replaced by one of God's lifestyle principles. That is one of the things Jesus does for us. Until Jesus sets aside a type of sin, you will continually face the temptation and often fall into it. Self-control may limit it, but won't eliminate it. Jesus eliminates sin in the order He chooses, when He chooses. And He does not eliminate all of them in this lifetime. This increases our commonality with God. We truly become more and more like God. We become more and more INmages of God. (INmage of God, someone who is like God in lifestyle principles, inside.)

The other thing Jesus does for us is to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, from all failures to meet God's standards. He cleanses us from each individual sinful act. This is where forgiveness comes in. Jesus cleanses us from what we did that we shouldn't have done. He sets aside our guilt for sinning. He applies mercy to us.

Jesus applies the mercies He obtained from God on the cross to our individual sins, and to our sinfulness so we are transformed to do right. In this way commonality with God is maintained, and that means relationship with God is maintained. I believe this cleansing is so thorough that the time periods when we sinned will totally vanish from our eternal records. They will cease to exist. All that will remain is when we did God's will God's way in God's time for God's reason and God's glory. We will truly be perfect.

And why does Jesus do all this? Because He is faithful. He is faithful to the Father to do the job He agreed to do in eternity past, and part of that job is cleaning us up. And He is faithful to us, since He promised to give us rest, and part of getting rest involves losing our sinfulness. And he is faithful to God's lifestyle principles, which involve doing whatever is necessary so we have a full relationship with God.

And also because it is the right thing to do. Cleaning us up is 100% in line with God's lifestyle principles, therefore it is the right thing to do.

And how do we get all these benefits from Jesus? Confess our sins. Then you have put yourself where you are open to being changed by Jesus instead of fighting to not change.

If we say that we have not sinned,

1:10 **„If possibly, we might say, that absolutely not, we have with current results sinned; done an (evil) standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,**

we make him a liar, and his

***we are making *Him [a] liar; falsifier; deceptive and untrustworthy [one],, and *His**

word is not in us.

^ logical presentation, absolutely not, is in the sphere of influence of, us.

1:10 God says all have sinned. Every one of us. And we still sin. If we try to say we haven't sinned or don't sin, we make God out to be a liar. And if we do that the logical presentation God gives us, showing that we are sinners in need of a Savior, is not in us and affecting our thinking and our lives. Not only is the logical presentation not in us, Jesus is not in us, since Jesus is the Word, the logical presentation. In other words, if you think you are sinless you need to rethink the idea of your being a Christian at all.

And God says you are a sinner, even though you are enjoying being in a relationship with Him.

Which brings us to:

Ch 2- *How do we know we are Christians? John is writing to Christians.*

Conclusion:

God wants you! Sin is not a deal breaker.

Unless you want it to be.

Except for the little child who wants to break it.

Thank you for reading this book. I pray that it is useful for you.

Eternal Life Definitions

How the 4 definitions of Eternal Life in the New Testament work together to bring out the full concept.

The 4 definitions of Eternal Life are in John 12:50; John 17:3; Romans 6:23; and 1 John 5:20.

First we need two other definitions:

Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation Jesus is the source of our salvation, the One Who brings it about in us. Through Him we have forgiveness of sins, and transformation so we do right.

Christ; Anointed Jesus was getting the eternal lifestyle principles He was living by from the Father, and thus He always did the Father's will. Anointing deals with how Jesus comes to be like the Father and how we come to be like Jesus.

The Four Definitions of Eternal Life:

John 17:3: And this is eternal life, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

αυτη δε εστιν η αιωνιος ζωη ινα γνωσκωσι σε τον μονον αληθινον θεον και ον απεστειλας ιησουν χριστον

What does Jesus do? As the 'Anointed (**Christ; Anointed**) One' Jesus receives the eternal lifestyle principles of God the Father and as '**God is salvation**' He implants them into us, making us anointed ones (1J 2:20, 27). When we have these eternal lifestyle principles implanted in us, we know from experience what God is like because we live by those same traits, and even more so since one of the traits we experience is God Himself ("love"- "the unconditional sacrificial commitment to others He has a covenant relationship with or has the possibility to have a relationship with.") in and through us. This living by and experiencing the traits of God Himself in us and the results, this is knowing God the Father and Jesus Christ: This is eternal life.

When you know the true God who provides the eternal lifestyle principles we are to live by via Jesus Christ who implants those lifestyle principles in us, you have eternal life in you.

Jesus implants God in us. We know God intimately, we experience Him in our lives, and this is eternal life. You have eternal life in you.

Having this eternal life in you, you also gain life everlasting with God. Life everlasting with God is a result of eternal life (God himself and His lifestyle principles) in you.

Jn 12:50: And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatever I speak therefore, even as the Father said to me, so I speak. (Better translation: his commandment is life eternal.)

και οιδα οτι η εντολη αυτου ζωη αιωνιος εστιν α ουν λαλω εγω καθως ειρηκε μοι ο πατηρ ουτω λαλω

God's commandment is eternal life. The specific commandment to Jesus on what to say was eternal life in action. Jesus obeyed the commandment so as to be doing eternal life. Jesus obeyed the commandment so as to be living in eternal life each and every moment. Jesus obeyed the commandment because He was living in eternal life right then. This was an ongoing obedience. This

shows that the ongoing application of the commandment is eternal life. Jesus had been commanded what to say, and doing so was eternal life for Him right then.

Eternal life, not everlasting life. Jesus wasn't obeying God to gain everlasting life, or to experience it right then. Being sinless, He still had that.

Eternal life has the element of doing what God expects of you right now. Doing what God commands, which in general for us is to live by God's eternal lifestyle principles (love God, love others, the fruit of the Spirit), is eternal life. Jesus did it. God commands it. You know how God operates and you do the same. Continually.

The commandment "is" eternal life. Not "will be" eternal life. Not "leads to" eternal life. Is-right then.

Taking the context into account, we see that everlasting life is attached to eternal life, but they are not the same. God seeks a forever relationship with people who are like Him, people who live by His lifestyle principles. These people will have everlasting life with God. God will enjoy having them around because they will be continually living like God wants, and they will enjoy being with God. People who reject God and His lifestyle principles will spend eternity separate from God.

Living by the eternal lifestyle principles is part of "knowing" God, the true God, the only source of these eternal lifestyle principles (and of Himself), and of "knowing" Jesus Christ who passes the principles on to us.

When you live in eternal life, you have eternal life in you. And you get everlasting life as a benefit. [Living in eternal life now thanks to God's mercies including the mercy of forgiveness, carries you through the eternal judgment, so you end up having everlasting life with God. Living in eternal life on earth carried Jesus through any judgment for His own acts and enabled Him, as He continued to live in eternal life while on the cross, to receive mercies for our sins because mingling His life with ours guarantees He will transform us. Jesus kept His eternal life and life everlasting and, because mingling His life with ours guarantees He will transform us, we end up with eternal life and life everlasting.]

When you live in eternal life, there also is an authority from God that is attached with your life, which makes others accountable and affects their eternity.

Ro 6:23: For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

τα γαρ οψωνια της αμαρτιας θανατος το δε χαρισμα του θεου ζωη αιωνιος εν χριστω ιησου τω κυριω ημων

The "gift"- "the result of the favor of the process of enabling" OR "the result of gracious benevolence"- is eternal life. First we entered into a covenant relationship with God, commonly thought of as being saved. Then, as a favor or gift, God enabled us to live by His lifestyle principles- the favor of the process of enabling. And we do it. We live by His principles. Not perfectly, but we live as God wants. God's goal is to have an everlasting relationship with people who are like Him in this area. God wants people who live like Him forever and ever, so He made it so we will do so forever and ever, and that requires us to live forever and ever. We will continue doing His will in this life and in the next. In return we end up with everlasting life with God, so His goal of having an everlasting relationship with people like Him (so angels continually are reminded of what God is like) will be met. We will be united with God not just in this life but forever.

The enabling is a gift, therefore the result of the enabling is also a gift. The result gift is everlasting life. "The **result** of the favor of the process of enabling OR of gracious benevolence" is everlasting life. Everlasting life is a gift, and we get this gift as a result of being enabled- as a gift- and then actually doing the lifestyle principles of God.

God's commandment is to live by His eternal lifestyle principles, and He gives us the ability to do so as His gift to us. We can't do it on our own. We get the lifestyle principles themselves via **Jesus**;

Savior; Yahweh is salvation, Christ; Anointed, who is our Master who can demand we live by these principles. As we live out God's lifestyle principles we have God living through us. The result is that we are united with God forever rather than separated from Him ("death") as we would be if we lived in sin. Living by God's lifestyle principles is a gift to us, and that makes the result- everlasting life- a gift also.

This verse defines eternal life the way we usually think of it: as everlasting life. The other definition of eternal life is in the background for this definition and makes this definition possible.

Eternal life- our living by God's eternal lifestyle principles- is the result of a favor from God, and the favor is the process of enabling us to live by God's eternal lifestyle principles. God enables us, we do the principles, and the result is everlasting life. Everlasting life is a result of eternal life in us.

1J 5:20: And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

οιδαμεν δε οτι ο υιος του θεου ηκει και δεδωκεν ημιν διανοιαν ινα γινωσκωμεν τον αληθινον και εσμεν εν τω αληθινω εν τω υιω αυτου ιησου χριστω ουτος εστιν ο αληθινος θεος και η ζωη αιωνιος

We are "in" God's Son Jesus Christ. We are in the sphere of influence of Jesus. Jesus is in the sphere of influence of the Father, and we are in the sphere of influence of Jesus. We know the truth. Jesus is the truth. We experientially know the truth. Jesus is the Son of God, the One receiving the lifestyle principles we are to live by from the Father, and He is the source of God's lifestyle principles for us, and He is the One who lives the principles in and through us. We are in the truth- we are under the influence of **Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation, Christ; Anointed.** Jesus is very God of very God, and He is eternal life. He isn't just the source, He is eternal life. Jesus Himself lives the lifestyle principles of God through us. God is love- the unconditional commitment to the well-being of others. We know God's lifestyle principles, and we know what it is to live by them, to have Jesus living them through us. This is the heart of eternal life.

So what is eternal life? What is a common denominator definition that fits with and is enhanced by the four above definitions?

I start with this definition of 'life':

Life *the ability to affect God, people, circumstances, and/or others*

To define eternal life I took into account this definition of life and the idea of blood covenant and the ideas presented above.

Eternal Life 1) *living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed. The eternal lifestyle principles we should live by.* 2) *everlasting life with God.*

When we live by God's eternal lifestyle principles we have eternal life in us. This isn't just everlasting life, but God's eternal lifestyle, which is God Himself, in us, which Jesus lives in and through us.

"Life everlasting" tags along with eternal life, but is not eternal life in its fullest. Everlasting life is a result of eternal life in us.

Eternal life and everlasting life occur when you maintain a relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ.

About there being only one definition of "eternal life" in the Bible. There is only one place where the exact term "eternal life" occurs and is defined (John 17:3). But, there are 3 places where "life eternal" is defined, and the terms "eternal life" and "life eternal" in the Greek have the same meaning. So there are really 4 definitions of "eternal life" or "life eternal", however you want to word it.

10 Misunderstood Words You Must Get Right to Understand 1 John

1. **Belief (Faith)** *trust and trustworthiness*

I usually use the words "trust and trustworthiness" to avoid the confusions that come with using "belief" or "faith".

This is not just head knowledge or an assent. You DO something. You trust God and are trustworthy toward God. "Faith" also falls in here- it is the same Greek word.

2. **Believe** *trust and be trustworthy*

I usually use the words "trust and be trustworthy" to avoid the confusions that come with using "believe"

Blood covenant relationship:

(this is an extra- not one of the 10)

The commingling of one's very life with others. Participation in and total commitment (sacrificially helping each other, if needed for the good of the other) to each individual in a group. Everyone subjects their desires, drives, needs, resources, methods, lifestyle principles, goals, and responsibilities to the good of the others. Everyone in a group is totally committed to and shares in & participates in all that the individuals and the group is and has and needs. Shared resources, shared lifestyles, shared responsibilities, shared super bond.

In the context of having the same lifestyle principles having (or creating) in common (sharing) a mutual group.. bond.. source.. resources.. capabilities.. taking on of responsibilities for each other.. goals.. blessings.. joy.. activities.. life..

3. Commonality *having (or promoting via a contribution) a likeness, a similarity, a common set of traits, and on that basis to be a part of a group and participate in what the group does and in one another's lives, with a commitment to the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of lives, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. More specifically, in 1 John, having the similarity or common set of traits of living by God's implanted lifestyle principles (though imperfectly for everyone except Jesus) and thus participating in a group, and what it does and in one another's lives, that includes God and God's followers due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of our lives with Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit and with each other, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. It includes and shows in living in unconditional commitment ('love') to people in the group, placing the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being. And, in this universe, Jesus is also in a commonality with the Father and the Holy Spirit due to living by the Father's lifestyle principles (which Jesus passes down to us).*

Commonly translated "fellowship" in 1 John.

God really does change you on the inside, giving you the ability to be like Him in your lifestyle principles. You become like God in this way, and that makes God really want to be close to you.

4. Darkness *not seeking a relationship of commonality with others, specifically a relationship based on the commonality of having God's lifestyle principles IN us guiding us.*

It does not refer to sinfulness.

5. Eternal Life 1) *living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed. The eternal lifestyle principles we should live by.* 2) *everlasting life with God.*

Definition 2 is commonly used, and easily understood. Definition 1 took some thinking. There are different definitions of the term: Jn 12:50; 17:3; Ro 6:23; 1 Jn 5:20. I looked for a common denominator in these definitions. First I had to decide what "life" really is, then took into account the ideas of "life" and blood covenant.

People tend to think of the second definition only, or miss the full idea of the first definition. To figure out the first definition you need to find the common idea behind 4 different definitions in 4 different verses, which is clear when you understand blood covenant relationship (itself rarely understood both today and in the time of Christ). And of course having a workable definition of Life (#8) is necessary.

6. Know (1) *ginoskw- (begin) to know (more and more) in a context, and to be sure due to that context. Does not require experience. Often implies a relationship between the knower and the known.*

7. Know (2) *Oida- to know by experience. Can be an intuitive full (assumed) knowledge. No implied relationship- there is just a knowledge of.*

8. Life *the ability to affect God, people, circumstances, and/or others*

9. Light *being committed to having relationships based on having a likeness, a commonality, and in 1 John the commonality is the sharing of God's lifestyle principles.*

It does not refer to sinfulness.

10. Love *the unconditional commitment to the well-being of others that you are in a relationship with or want to be in a relationship with, no matter how you feel about them.*

The word in the Greek is "agape" in 1 John.

Notice the words "no matter how you feel about them". Agape love has nothing to do with feelings.

I often use the words "unconditional commitment" or "unconditional commitment to the well-being of others" to avoid the confusions that come with using "love"

3 Main Points About Jesus

Jesus is the "Son". He has a relationship with the Father. The Father is the originator of how Jesus acts. The Father provides the lifestyle principles Jesus lives by. Jesus acts like the Father.

The word "Jesus" deals with His relationship with us. The word "Jesus" means "God is salvation". Jesus is the source of our salvation, and the One Who brings it about in us. Through Him we have God the Father's forgiveness of sins and transformation so we do right instead of sinning.

And the word "Christ" deals with Jesus being the One between God and man, between God and me and you. The word "Christ" means "anointed one". As the anointed One Jesus is receiving the lifestyle principles of God the Father and He is passing them on to you. Anointing deals with how Jesus comes to be like the Father and how we come to be like Jesus.

God WANTS You.

Jesus put Himself under and obeys God the Father (they are equal in eternity), He died a horrendous death on a cross and waited for the Father's mercies for your sins and works IN you now cleaning you up, ALL because the Father WANTS to be with you, and He wants you to be the means of angels learning about mercies. Jesus is about the Father and Jesus is about You.

Sin is not a Deal Breaker. Jesus made sure of that.

Jesus cares. Give Him a chance to prove it.

God IS Light

"Light" is wanting a relationship with someone, with likeness or sameness being its basis.

God IS light. God WANTS You. He wants a relationship with You. He is committed to having a relationship of caring with You.

And this relationship is based on sameness. Birds of a feather flock together. Fish of a fin swim together.

God cares about others. And He wants to be close to people who care about others.

He wants to live IN you, making you into a caring person. Then you will be like Him. You and God will have a sameness.

And God will get real close to you. He will give you blessings. You will have joy in your heart, even when things aren't going so well. Things will work out better than expected. And just wait till you see what God has in Heaven for you.

God WANTS You.

God Is NOT Darkness

Darkness is to fail to want a relationship with someone with likeness or sameness being the relationship's basis.

God WANTS a relationship with You. Nothing in God drives Him to not WANT a relationship with You. You sinned? God sent Jesus Christ to deal with that. It Cost God A Lot to do that. Even sin can't make God not offer a relationship with You. There is No darkness in God.

He will do the work IN You to make YOU caring like Him so the relationship can go on and on and on.

Darkness is to fail to want a relationship with someone with likeness or sameness being the relationship's basis. God is not like that. God is Not darkness. God does not fail You. If you will have Him, He will have you.

Can I sin and still be in the Light?

Yes!

Light is not sinlessness.

Light is wanting a relationship with someone, with likeness or sameness being its basis.

You have a war going on inside you when you are a Christian. The flesh lusts against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh. Inwardly you want to do right and you still do wrong at times (many times). (Galatians 5:17; Romans 7:15, 19)

You want to have a relationship with God- and you do. You Want to have a caring relationship with people- and you do. And at times- maybe even daily- you do uncaring- sinful- things. Selfishness, greed, lust- they don't go away just because you became a Christian. Over time, they diminish as God changes you to be more caring like He is. But they are still there.

You sin, even though you are wanting a relationship with someone, with likeness or sameness being its basis. Sin does not make you not in the light. Sin disturbs it, but it doesn't end it. (Unless you decide you want to tell God to take a hike, you want nothing to do with Him, but that is a different situation altogether.)

So, yes, you can sin and still be in the light.

Jesus Overview

God in the flesh: (He is the “Son of Man”.) Jesus, Who is God, became fully human while still being fully God. Jesus is uniquely the God-Man. Jesus is one of us. He knows what it is to be tempted (though He did not sin), to be abused and to suffer, to laugh, to grow up. God with us in human form Who experienced living by the lifestyle principles the Father wants us to live by.

Jesus "**came out of the God**": Jesus had and has an eternal relationship with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit, beyond anything we will experience, a relationship of commonality, unconditional commitment, and so much more. They come from the same stock, so to speak. They are each one all that God is.

Son: (He is the “Son of God”.) Jesus has a relationship with the Father wherein Jesus is like the Father because the Father originates how Jesus acts by providing the lifestyle principles Jesus lives by.

Christ: "anointed one" - As a true full human He receives the lifestyle principles we are to live by from God the Father. You see God in Him.

Jesus: "**God is salvation**". Jesus is the full source of our salvation: He put His life on the line on the cross to wait for and receive, and now applies God the Father's mercies to us. He forgives our sins, and He transforms us by putting God's lifestyle principles in us so we do right instead of sinning, so you live by light (seeking relationships), being unconditionally committed to the well-being of others, enjoying the relationship of commonality of similarity with God and Christians. In the context of being a true full human, Jesus died for us and now lives for us.

In a covenant with God Jesus provides the forgiveness and the transformation that make us worthy to be in a relationship with God, and brings us back into that relationship. Jesus did not come to earth and just do any old thing that came to His mind to fulfill His covenant with the Father. As God is Salvation He passes on the Father's mercies: He forgives us and implants God's lifestyle principles into us. He transforms us. He agreed to come to earth, to **suffer**, and then to be **glorified**.

What did Jesus **accomplish**? Gives us real eternal life: Removes our sins and our sinfulness by passing on the Father's mercies of forgiveness and of making it so we live by the eternal lifestyle principles of God, so that we affect all around us using those principles, and those effects are eternal.

Jesus, being God and Man, is fully able to do the task of making you into the new improved version of you that He agreed to make you into.

Jesus made a **commitment to you**. You have rights in the relationship such as having sins forgiven when you confess them and being transformed and blessed and having prayers granted. A Christian influences Jesus with prayers, and Jesus influences him with forgiveness and transformation.

Propitiation: Someone who comes between 2 people, one of whom is offended, and provides something so the offended one is no longer offended but desires a relationship again. Jesus arranged for our forgiveness. He also arranged for us to have favor with the Father, something we lost due to sin. We have this favor because he transforms to live by the lifestyle principles of God.

Why Jesus takes care of our sin: He is **faithful**: to the Father to do the job He agreed to do in eternity past, and part of that job is cleaning us up as our Savior; to us, since He promised to give us rest, and part of getting rest involves losing our sinfulness; and to God's lifestyle principles, which involve doing

whatever is necessary so we have a full relationship with God, and since cleaning us up is 100% in line with these principles. Watch Jesus, study His life, and you see His mission.

In His **purity** He makes us pure. Jesus is your **advocate**, your defender, before God and man.

God N Me Questions

We are going to work through the little book of 1 John. I will guide you through some of the ideas John presents. Whether you accept what God says and what God offers is up to you. Right now I can say God WANTS a relationship with you, and He did a lot so you and He can be best friends. In the process you will find out just how important you are. And what God wants to do IN you.

For this section, the questions go with the verses.

1:1 What is life? Do you have life?

How are you affecting people? For good? For bad?

Do people know you have life? What kind of life do you have? How do you react to people with this kind of life?

Does it make sense that God WANTS to have a relationship with you? Why?

How do you want people to react to you?

Who had a relationship with God? Who really lived by God's lifestyle principles?

How does He make it so we know what kind of life He really lived?

Can you be in a relationship with God? Were the disciples in a relationship with God? Did they know Jesus and react to Him?

What is eternal life?

What is the result of eternal life?

1:2 What was seen?

How do you react to eternal life?

What is 'see'? What does 'see' really mean?

Who saw eternal life?

How did they know they were seeing eternal life and not just regular life?

Who lived out eternal life?

Do you live this eternal life? Do you want to?

Will God be pleased with you if you do?

If God is pleased with you, will you be significant? Important?

1:3 Would you like to be like Jesus, affecting people in good ways?

John had it, can you? Are you ready for God to change you?

What lifestyle principles do Jesus and the Father live by?

Are you willing to let God decide what lifestyle principles you should live by, so you have a positive effect on people?

Are you willing to fill the role God created for you?

Are you willing to let God implant his lifestyle principles IN you so you can do that role? Or do you want to try it on your own?

1:4 As an aside: Jesus waited until after His death to get His rewards. Are you willing to wait?

Are you willing to take the risk of making the lives of other people better instead of your own?

Are you willing to let God use others to take care of you instead of just trusting yourself?

Joy. Where do you get it? How?

You really can be in a relationship with God. You really really can be like God in the principles you live by.

1:5 How committed are you to having relationships with people? Do you have any relationships you want to strengthen? Develop? Destroy?

Would you be more willing to have a relationship with someone if they became more like you?

Are you willing to be a blessing to them before change happens? If not, why would they even want to change? Or want a relationship with you?

Jesus died for you. He keeps God's wrath from thumping you right now. Is that enough to give God a chance?

1:6 Are you so selfish you won't even try kindness and generosity so you can establish a relationship with troublesome people?

1:7 Do you know of any relationships that are trouble free (except those between God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit)?

Do you think God is so naive that He expects you to do everything perfectly in your relationship with Him?

Do you expect kids to be perfect all the time?

When kids do bad things is it to break relationship with you? Or just greediness or stupidity or...?

Is God big enough to handle you being dumb at times? Even lots of times?

And when you do dumb things is it to break your relationship with God or just to get something?

Do dumb acts break the relationship, or just disturb it?

Do you see what God is doing here? At times you do dumb, selfish things. What does Jesus do?

Do you notice that He does not break off the relationship? What does He do?

Since you are patient with kids, and work to mold them toward right living so they have better relationships with people, do you think God can do that with you? Is God doing it right now with you? Or has lightning popped out of the ceiling?

Can you walk in the light and still have problems with sinning?

Do you have a relationship with God? If not, are you ready to start? [Ask a friend how to start.]

God wants to make you like Him. Caring, generous, helpful, peaceful. Is this what you want?

Do you want to share this commonality with God and with others?

1:8 Do you know how you fit in with God? Do you know how you fit in with Christianity? Your church? With Christians you know?

Are Christians sinless?

Are you sinless? Do you do things that make God unhappy?

Are you forming relationships with Christians? Does this make it seem like maybe sin isn't so much of a problem now? And you are really fully all right with God?

1:9 Do you confess your sins to Jesus?

What 2 things is He doing for you?

Do you see any areas where Jesus has changed the way you live? (No need to list them! This is private stuff.) Are the changes slow, or instant?

Do you want Jesus to change you so you live by God's lifestyle principles of caring and generosity and helping and peace and more?

Do you want commonality (likeness) with God on the inside?

Since Jesus is doing this, is it safe to say "God WANTS You: Sin Is Not A Deal Breaker"?

Is what Jesus does for you a Big Deal?

Does this mean you are important to God?

Did I Really Learn It?

Chapter 1

1:1 What is life?

What is eternal life?

1:2 If God is pleased with you, will you be significant? Important? Why?

When eternal life is seen, what do you actually observe?

1:3 What is commonality?

Discuss the meanings of "Son", "Jesus", and "Christ"

1:5 What is "light"?

1:7 Can you walk in the light and still have problems with sinning?

Does God break off relationship with you when you sin?

1:9 What 2 things does Jesus do about your sin?

Why does Jesus take care of our sin?

Did I Really Learn It? Answers

Chapter 1

- 1:1 What is life?
the ability to affect God, people, circumstances, and/or others
- What is eternal life?
living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed. The lifestyle principles we should live by.
- 1:2 If God is pleased with you, will you be significant? Important? Why?
[Personalized answer.]
- When eternal life is seen, what do you actually observe?
God's lifestyle principles being lived by and their effects on people.
- 1:3 What is commonality? **MIDTERM QUESTION**
*having (or promoting via a contribution) a likeness, a similarity, a common set of traits, and on that basis to be a part of a group and participate in what the group does and in one another's lives, with a commitment to the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of lives, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. More specifically, in 1 John, having the similarity or common set of traits of living by God's implanted lifestyle principles (though imperfectly for everyone except Jesus) and thus participating in a group, and what it does and in one another's lives, that includes God and God's followers due to a very sharing- intercommingling- of our lives with Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit and with each other, due to being in blood-covenant relationship with each other. It includes and shows in living in unconditional commitment ('love') to people in the group, placing the well-being of the others even over one's own well-being. And, in this universe, Jesus is also in a commonality with the Father and the Holy Spirit due to living by the Father's lifestyle principles (which Jesus passes down to us).
Commonly translated "fellowship".*
- Discuss the meanings of "Son", "Jesus", and "Christ" **MIDTERM QUESTION**
The word "Son" reminds us that Jesus has a relationship with the Father. The Father is the originator of how Jesus acts. The Father provides the lifestyle principles Jesus lives by. Jesus acts like the Father. The word "Jesus" deals with His relationship with us. The word "Jesus" means "God is salvation". Jesus is the source of our salvation, of our restoration to relationship with God, and the One Who brings it about in us. Through Him we have forgiveness of sins, and transformation so we do right instead of sinning. And the word "Christ" deals with Jesus being the One between God and man, between God and me and you. The word "Christ" means "anointed one". As the anointed One Jesus is receiving the lifestyle principles of God the Father and He is passing them on to you. Anointing deals with how Jesus comes to be like the Father and how we come to be like Jesus.
- 1:5 What is "light"?
Being committed to seeking relationships based on having the commonality of eternal life, of God's lifestyle principles IN us. It does not refer to sinfulness. So when John says God is light he means God is totally committed to forming relationships with us by having something in common with us. Light has to do with forming relationships.

Being committed to having relationships based on having a likeness, a commonality, and in 1 John the commonality is the sharing of God's lifestyle principles.

It does not refer to sinfulness.

1:7 Can you walk in the light and still have problems with sinning?

Yes.

Does God break off relationship with you when you sin?

No.

1:9 What 2 things does Jesus do about your sin?

Jesus is actually setting aside our sinfulness, transforming us. He is changing us so we live more and more by the eternal lifestyle principles of God. Over time our different types of sinning are set aside and replaced by one of God's lifestyle principles. This increases our commonality with God. We truly become more and more like God.

Jesus cleanses us from what we did that we shouldn't have done. He sets aside our guilt for sinning. In this way commonality with God is maintained, and that means relationship with God is maintained. I believe this cleansing is so thorough that the time periods when we sinned will totally vanish from our eternal records. They will cease to exist.

Why does Jesus take care of our sin?

Because He is faithful. He is faithful to the Father to do the job He agreed to do in eternity past, and part of that job is cleaning us up. And He is faithful to us, since He promised to give us rest, and part of getting rest involves losing our sinfulness. And he is faithful to God's lifestyle principles, which involve doing whatever is necessary so we have a full relationship with God.

And also because it is the right thing to do. Cleaning us up is 100% in line with God's lifestyle principles, therefore it is the right thing to do.

The Gift



Jesus in my heart makes me valuable

You can be a:

**ValuableMe- I am a bonafide headed-to-Heaven purpose-loaded person
God is delighted to see.**

I help you be one.

**I help you see you the way God sees you and see how to improve
so He sees you with delight**

About the author

I write for people who want to feel significant. I help you discover why you exist, why you suffer, just how much God WANTS You in a relationship with Him, what Jesus did and is doing so you get God's mercies (this is personally important to Jesus). Jesus N Me, Jesus N Mercies, Mercies N Me- this is all planned by God so you can be truly significant.

I'm a writer. I write. I've been mad at God when He gave me info belatedly, forcing me to rewrite. I've delayed on some projects and God has had to nudge me along. Mostly I just DO IT! I write. Theology, commentaries, Bible-teaching novels- I write. Writing is hard. It is frustrating. It is fun. It is my hobby. I write. I did finally have to tell God there is no sense writing if there are no readers. So now I have a little time for promoting, too.

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