

# Midweek Heads Up

Wednesday, September 28th - 2022

Night's Flow -> Eat 6:10 -> Announce/Challenge 6:50 -> Worship 7:00 -> Lesson/Small Groups 7:15

01

## Big Ideas for the Night

TO BE HONEST... Seeing ourselves for REAL.

(Who am I really? How can I know where I'm at with God?)

03

## Teaching Time

Wk. 2 - 1 John - REAL-eyes

Big Idea: Real-eyes : TO BE HONEST... Seeing ourselves for REAL

### The Flow:

Intro/Hook: Crowd participation with glow sticks on questions requiring honesty...

### Book:

Quick look at Structure of 1 John (Bike Sketch)

4 Contrasts John Uses...

Walking in darkness vs. Walking in light. (1:5-7)

Claiming innocence vs. Sin claiming. (1:8-10)

Love\* & disobedience vs Love & obedience (2:3-6)

Darkness of hate vs. Light of love (2:9-11)

### Look:

What drives it all? Remaining/Abiding IN Christ (2:24-27)

### Took:

An honest assessment of ourselves.

### Extro/Challenge

See attached Gospel Culture sheet for confession exercise if you feel up for it/think it could at all benefit your group.

02

## Tasks we're trying to tackle:

Getting people checking in w/ photo

Memorizing names

Looking for outside opportunities to grow community in our groups.

04

## SMALL GROUPS

Small Group ?'s OTHER SIDE

See attached Gospel Culture sheet for confession exercise if willing/think it could at all benefit your group. swap with prayer requests time possibly.

05

## Student Announce

- Oasis is coming up in month + , Getting interested?

## 06 Handouts/Resources

- Night's Graphic
- Deeper Link Card with links to things to check out/read in next week

07

## Week's ahead...

- Fall Shindig - 26th, check your Calendar! Anyone up for shifting this to the 19th?

- NEXT SERIES: The Bigger Story (Creation / Fall / Promise / Redemption / Restoration), 5 wks following the next two weeks.

# SMALL GROUP

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## Small Group discussion ?'s

- What do you think it means to "walk in the light as he is in the light"? (v. 1:7)
- Think about what this verse means: "We are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness." (1:6 NLT)  
What does it mean to walk in darkness?
- John talks about those who claim to walk with God but are actually walking in darkness. Can a person know God and yet consistently choose to sin? What do you think John would say?
- What communicates love most clearly to you? Perhaps it's words or acts of service or sharing time together? Talk about some of the different ways love can be expressed.
- Reading Ch. 2, verses 1-4, what connection does John make between love and obedience? What is challenging about this connection? Makes sense?
- John tells us that love is true when it is faithful, when we do what we say we will do. Think about the relationships that are most important to you. How do lies or broken promises affect those relationships in negative ways?
- 1 John 2:10-11, what can you learn from this text?
- At the end of the day, how sure are you of the story that your life tells of what you believe? Is it what you were already convinced of?

## Some alternate approaches...

What is challenging about any of John's words here?

What is something that confuses you in these first couple chapters?

If John's point is that a look at our lives is a good indication of where we're at with Jesus, what does your life say?

## to "abide" - meno

to continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry

"Remain in me and I in you, just as a branch..." John 15:4-5

# Growing Gospel Culture in student ministry

## Walk in the Light

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. — 1 John 1:7

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

— James 5:16a

Christian community often drifts towards dishonesty, with individuals presenting themselves to be polished and impressive instead of truly known and honest. But the Bible teaches us that we have real sins and a real savior, and it calls us to confess sins to one another and to pray for one another. We are called to come out of the darkness of sin and dishonesty and “walk in the light, as He is in the light.” Walking in the Light time is a simple, repeatable rhythm of confession of sin and prayer within a small group.

### How do we share during Walking in the Light?

1. Scripture - Introduce the time by reading the passages above and explaining what we are about to do, confess sins to one another and pray for one another.
2. Get Small - Break up into small groups (3-6) or pairs.
3. Confession - The leader of the group should go first in confessing a sin. This could range from specific sins committed in the past or confessing idols or sinful dispositions.
4. Prayer - Immediately after the person shares, their partner or the person to their right will jump in and pray for them, asking for God’s help for their fellow believer, for healing, for repentance, for felt forgiveness.
5. Repeat - The next person in the group has a chance to confess. And the next person prays for them.

### Ground Rules:

1. We don’t joke or gossip about things shared during Walking in the Light.
2. Confession of sin is not forced. Feel free to simply pass when it’s your turn.
3. This is not a time for offering each other advice or silver bullet answers (“Well what you really need to do to fix that is ...”).
4. This is not a time of commiserating with one another or downplaying another’s sin (“I do that, too! It’s not a big deal”).

### Note for Youth Leaders:

1. Leaders should not confess anything that glorifies sin or exposes young students to new sins. This doesn’t mean a lack of honesty but rather more simplicity.
2. Leaders should communicate with parents if a student confesses something related to self-harm or potential abuse.
3. The deep significance of this time won’t stick unless students see you lead the way in confessing real, specific ways you need Jesus and his Spirit’s renewing power.

Above practices borrowed straight from series by Vince Greenwald, the student ministry director at Immanuel Church in Nashville, TN. and posted on

<https://www.youthpastortheologian.com/resources/gospel-culture-walking-in-the-light>