

# Faith Talk - June 7, 2026

**Series:** 1 John- Life in the Light and Love of God

**Sermon:** Fellowship with God

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:3

*What we have seen and heard, we also declare to you, so that you may also have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

## Sermon Summary

This sermon began a new series in the book of 1 John- life in the light and love of God. We established the three A's and the three O's. Can you remember what they are?

**Author:** The Apostle John

**Audience:** Believers in Christ

**Association:** John's Ministry in Ephesus and the Roman province of Asia

**Occasion:** False teachers denying the gospel and approving sin

**Overview:** John reminds believers to live in the light and love of God's presence, thereby protecting and demonstrating their true fellowship with God.

**Outcome:** Their fellowship with God and one another would be demonstrated by how they stay true to the gospel in what they believe and in how they love and obey God with the lives they live.

This opening sermon in 1 John addresses the unexpected proof of authentic fellowship with God: not sinless perfection, but honest confession of imperfection.

John writes to believers threatened by false teachers who claimed you could deny the gospel and live in sin while maintaining fellowship with the light and love of God's truth. John challenges them to recognize that fellowship with God requires agreement with the gospel and to live in love and obedience to Him.

The key distinction: walking in the light means living in God's holiness. The darkness of rationalization and denial keeps us from seeing our sin; the light of God's truth exposes it and offers forgiveness and cleansing.

Can you see your sin? Are you living in the light? Are you in the practice of confession and cleansing or rationalizing and denying? Take an honest step toward fellowship. Living in fellowship with God to experience complete joy just might be the purpose of this letter.

## Discussion Questions

### Conversations with Adults

1. When you sin, do you tend to rationalize it, deny it, or confess it? Which one comes most naturally to you, and why?
2. What does "walking in the light" practically look like in your daily life? How does living in God's holiness change what you do?
3. John writes that joy comes from faithfulness to the gospel and walking in love and obedience to God. Where do you actually find joy? Is it from obeying God or from other things?

### Conversations with Students

1. Think about a time you got caught doing something wrong. Did you try to rationalize it, deny it, or admit it? What happened?
2. The sermon says confessing sin is actually proof you're in the light of God's light and love. Does that change how you think about admitting when you mess up?
3. What makes you happy or gives you real joy? Is it coming from God or from something else?

### Conversations with Kids

1. When you do something wrong, what do you usually do? Do you tell the truth right away, make excuses, or pretend it didn't happen?
2. What does it mean that when we tell God the truth about our sin, He forgives us and we feel clean again? Can you think of a time that happened?
3. What's something that makes you feel happy? Is that joy coming from God?

## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Jesus, the Light of the World, who came to reveal truth and invite us into authentic fellowship with You. We're grateful that You don't require perfection but honesty, confession rather than denial or rationalization.

We ask for courage to step out of darkness and into Your light, to see our sin clearly and confess it boldly. Forgive us for the times we've believed the lie that we can sin and still be in fellowship with You. Help us to understand that confession is not shame but the path to restoration and cleansing.

We commit to walking in Your light and holiness, agreeing with Your gospel truth, and loving and obeying You with our lives. May our joy come from faithfulness to You rather than from chasing worldly things. Give us the joy that comes only from authentic fellowship with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.