

What is John's overarching goal with the book of 1 John? Why is this important to keep in mind as we go along?

The first evidence of knowing your sins are forgiven is outward: You walk in the light. How is fellowship harmed or weakened when you aren't consistently walking with Christ in love and obedience?

How have you seen fellowship with believers increase and deepen when your personal relationship with Christ is strong?

When people think of sin today, there is the "no shame" camp and the "full of shame" camp. Before you came to Christ, which camp were you in? How is the gospel so effective at speaking into both camps?

When we confess (agree with God about our sin), we are forgiven and cleansed. Why are both of those realities so important to celebrate?

Think personally about both of those realities – forgiven and cleansed. How can you testify to the power of these promises in your life? How does this (or how should this) affect our confidence in our salvation?

As our advocate, Jesus appeals to God's justice and not only his mercy for our forgiveness. Why is it "just" of God to forgive us and not only merciful?

Propitiation is the removal of God's wrath against sinners by the death of Jesus. How should the truth of Jesus being our propitiation both humble you and make you tremendously confident in your forgiveness?

Accountability: Is there a specific area of your life (thoughts, beliefs, habits, actions, attitudes, motivations) that you know you need to confess as sin to God? Speak those things to one another and take them to God in prayer to experience his forgiveness and cleansing.