

CHRISTIAN KOINONIA

1 John 1:1-10

Key Verse: 1:3

“We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.”

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What do you know about Gnosticism? Why would the idea that spirit is good and matter is evil make men doubt the incarnation of Jesus (Jn 1:14), and finally doubt the love of God? What happens when we doubt God's love? (Rev 2:4; Lk 5:37)
2. Read verses 1-2. What are John's credentials as a witness who can testify about Jesus? (1,2; Rev 1:1,2; Jn 13:23)
3. Think about the Almighty God (Isa 6:3-4). How does John testify that Jesus is God? That Jesus was a man? (1-3; Jn 1:1-3,14) What does it mean that Jesus is the Word of life?
4. Read verse 3. What is "koinonia"? How did Jesus practice koinonia with his disciples? With all kinds of people? (Mk 2:16; 3:14; Lk 17:11-14; Lk 5:27; Lk 23:34a) How did Jesus show God's love? His grace and truth?
5. What can we learn from Paul about koinonia? How did Paul participate in the suffering of Jesus? (Php 3:10; Ac 14:8-20,22) How did the early church practice koinonia? (Ac 4:32-32)
6. Read verses 3-4. What is the power source of Christian koinonia? (Ac 1:11-14; Mk 3:31-35; Mt 18:20) Why must Christian koinonia be based on God's word? (1Thes 1:8a; 1Co 1:18)
7. What do verses 5-7 teach about the Christian lifestyle? What does it mean to "walk in darkness"? To "walk in light"? What is the Christian's task? (1Pe 2:9)
8. Read verses 8-10. What hinders Christian koinonia? What promise of

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God can we find here? Why is repentance and forgiveness essential to Christian koinonia?