



WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

1 John 1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 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. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 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, purifies us from all sin.

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

Icebreaker

Tell about the best shower or bath you have ever experienced. What made it so good? Were you super dirty? Tired? Without warm or hot water for a long time?

Conversation Starters (Pick one or two topics or questions to begin, you will not have time for all the questions.)

1. If you were driving down the road and saw a sign which read, “Have you been washed in the blood of the lamb?” What are your first thoughts? Is this a familiar image for you? When you think about family, friends, or coworkers who might see the same sign, what might they think of washing in the “blood?”

Have someone read the rest of 1 John 1:5-10, what stands out to you?

2. Jesse talked about Sin as missing the mark, we experience sin as both a power and through our participation. Does that impact the way you think about sin? Explain.
3. John wrote that we should walk in the light. What comes to mind when you think about walking in the light? Jesse said, walking in the light means being honest with yourself and honest with God. How do you respond to that?
4. Have someone Read 1 John 1:4-7 John watched his friend, Jesus, die on the cross. He stood next to Jesus’ mother during the entire time Jesus was dying. We saw him, we touched him, we witnessed Jesus die and we told it to you. How does this affect the way you read his words?
5. Describe the person who lives with no guilt or blame - no hatred for self or others. How does this description fit you or those around you? Is this an attractive life to you? Why or why not?
6. What are some ways you might practice receiving the “keys to a new day?”
7. How do you need help from God, from friends or music, poetry, story, adventure to live with an untroubled heart in the midst of so much trouble?