

# SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 08.09.24

**PREACHER: PS CAM HALL**

LIVING IN THE LIGHT

## BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

*BEING, THINKING & DOING*

**Conviction of a Disciple:** As we grow into Christlikeness, we find ourselves increasingly satisfied by God's love and light.

### OVERVIEW

Walking in God's light means confessing our sins, experiencing His grace and forgiveness, and living transformed lives that reflect His light to the world, knowing that darkness can never overcome His light.

### ACTION

**Step 1:** Reflect: Where have I allowed sin to pull me into darkness, and how can I step back into God's light?

**Step 2:** Commit: How can I commit to daily confession and openness before God, trusting in His forgiveness?

**Step 3:** Act: What steps can I take this week to live out the transformation that comes from walking in God's light?

# THOUGHT

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 JOHN 1:5-2:2

In the New Testament, a herald would walk through the streets announcing important news. John, in his letter, plays this role, proclaiming: “God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5). This takes us back to the very beginning of Scripture, where God steps into a dark, chaotic space and brings light and order. Just as He did then, God still brings His light into the chaos of our hearts and lives.

This imagery of light and darkness runs through the Bible, and it reflects the tension in our own lives. In the Garden of Eden, walking in God’s light meant intimacy and clarity. But when sin entered, it led to hiding, shame, and confusion—this is what sin does: it pulls us away from God’s light and into darkness, where we feel the need to cover up. John encourages us to walk in the light, and not sin. But when we do fall, Jesus, our advocate, stands in the gap, reminding us that we are forgiven and restoring us to fellowship with God (1 John 2:1). We don’t have to live in guilt or shame—Jesus calls us out of darkness and into His light, to live in the freedom He offers.

Sin is deceptive. It promises more than it can give—offering something beautiful but delivering emptiness. But while sin leads to darkness, Jesus offers abundant life and light. When we walk in His light, we not only see our brokenness, but we also experience His grace. Confession, then, becomes not a shameful act, but a freeing one. John tells us, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). God’s faithfulness assures us that no matter how dark our sin feels, His light always overcomes it.

We might try to hide our sins, just like Adam and Eve did in the garden, but it doesn’t work. We justify, rationalise, or make excuses, but this only leaves us more exposed before God. Instead, we’re called to be honest and confess our sins. Confession allows us to agree with God about the reality of our sins, and in doing so, we step back into the light. God’s response is always the same—He is faithful, just, and eager to forgive.

Once we confess, the next step is to live out the salvation we’ve received. Like a splinter that needs to be worked out of our skin, our salvation needs to work its way out in our lives, transforming how we think, act, and live. It can be hard, and at times painful, but it’s how we experience freedom and live as people of the light. When we allow Christ’s light to shine through us, it spills over to those around us.

John's call to “walk in the light” is not just a lofty goal—it’s a daily journey. Jesus, who is perfect and blameless, has already conquered the darkness so that His light can dwell in us. As we walk in His light, we become reflections of His grace, shining His love and truth into the world.

Walking in the light isn’t about getting everything right; it’s about walking in the direction of Christ. And as we do, His light transforms not only our hearts but the lives of others as well. Let us confess, live out our faith, and walk in the light, knowing that wherever light shines, darkness is gone.

## DISCUSSION

1. What does it look like to walk in the light in practical, everyday situations?
2. How does confessing our sins bring us closer to God, and how can we encourage one another in this practice?
3. In what ways can we shine God's light in our community, reflecting His love and grace to others?

## PRAYER

Lord,

Thank you for the power of Your light. Jesus, we speak your mighty name over every area of our lives, so that your light would shine over everything and for everything because there is no darkness in You. Allow us to know that we are filled with the light and love of Christ. This week, help us be light bearers of Your name, entrusting us with Your message and Your presence.

Amen