

Home Group Questions

The Heart of the Matter - 1 John 1:1-10

The apostle John wrote to a group in churches in what is modern day Turkey. False teachers were saying that physical things were evil and spiritual things were good. This led to two dangerous errors:

- *They would not believe that Jesus was the Son of God.*
- *They believed they could live as they wanted because their bodies did not matter.*

John insists on the real life and death of Jesus Christ – God in the flesh. And he says that sin matters, and how Christians live is equally important.

Read 1 John 1:1-4

1. What is the message that John proclaims? Why do you think he expresses it like this?
2. What does John say about the Word of life?
3. Why does John proclaim the Word of life?
4. The act of God becoming human is called ‘the incarnation’. Why is the testimony of the apostles about the incarnation so important? Are you willing to defend the Bible’s teaching on the incarnation?

Read 1 John 1:5-10

5. ‘God is light’ (v.5) could mean many things. What does John mean (look at how darkness and light are used in the rest of the passage)?
6. What false claims does John tackle in verses 6-10?
7. How does John respond to these false claims?
8. How is it possible for God to be both faithful and just when He forgives sin?

John opposes people who do not take sin seriously. They think sin does not matter (v.6-7) or can easily be overcome (v.8-10).

9. How might a weak view of sin affect our spiritual lives?
10. When are you most tempted to think that sin doesn’t matter? What kind of sins do you think of as ‘little sins’?

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