

## HOW TO RESTORE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD & OTHERS Pt. 1

(The Conditions of Fellowship with God and Others)

### A. The COMMONALITY of FELLOWSHIP.

**B. The CATEGORIES of FELLOWSHIP.** The *direction* of fellowship can be HORIZONTALLY with other BELIEVERS around JESUS CHRIST, or it can be VERTICALLY with GOD THE FATHER and the LORD JESUS CHRIST. (1 John 1:1-3)

**C. The CAUSES of FELLOWSHIP** involved public worship of God with other believers (Acts 2:41-47), financial giving to meet other believer's needs (Rom. 15:26-27; 2 Cor. 8:4, 9:13; Heb. 13:16), supporting missions and planting local churches, etc. (Phil. 1:5, 4:14-19), and even in suffering for Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:10).

**D. The CAUTIONS of FELLOWSHIP.** The *distinctions* regarding fellowship are that you may be involved in the RIGHT kind of fellowship around the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the WOG (Phil. 1:5, 27, 4:14; Acts 19:8-11; Gal. 2:9) or the WRONG kind of fellowship around law instead of grace, around a false Gospel vs a true Gospel, around ethnicity instead of being together in the body of Christ, in divisive team building, around certain personalities, involving false worship, around personal criticisms, etc. (Gal. 1:6-10, 2:11-21; 3:1-5; 4:15-20; 5:7-12; 1 Cor. 1:10, 10:14-22, 11:17-22, 15:33-34, Eph. 4:1-3, 12-13, 5:8-13; 2 Jn 7-11; 3 Jn 5-8, Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Tim. 2:15-18).

### E. The CONDITIONS for FELLOWSHIP with GOD and OTHERS.

#### 1. FELLOWSHIP with GOD. (1 John 1)

##### a. Some *initial observations* about 1 John 1:1-2:2:

- 1) This passage is for \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_. (1:3-4, 6-10, 2:1-2)
- 2) This passage is about \_\_\_\_\_ truth, not \_\_\_\_\_ truth. (1:6-10)
- 3) This passage is about \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_. (1:3, 6,7)
- 4) This passage begins and ends with focusing on \_\_\_\_\_, not us, as the basis of our fellowship with God is not our confession of sin but the finished work of Christ. (1:1-3; 2:1-2)
- 5) This passage sets the \_\_\_\_\_ for the rest of 1 John {fellowship view vs tests of salvation view} and ties in heavily to the UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE of our Lord (John 13-17).
- 6) This passage has a pattern of \_\_\_\_\_ that must not be ignored. (1:6-10)
- 7) This passage deals with the \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1a) and the \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1b).
- 8) This passage highlights that fellowship with God is \_\_\_\_\_ (active voice), not accidental, though it is the by-product of a believer walking in the light.

**b. When it comes to *fellowship with God*, it is important to remember ...**

- 1) The *character* of God (1 John 1:5): “This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is \_\_\_\_\_ {truth & holy} and in Him is no \_\_\_\_\_ {lies & sin} at all.”
- 2) The *condition to have fellowship with God* (1 John 1:6-8)
  - a) The first *false claim about fellowship with God*: “If we say that we have fellowship with Him and walk in \_\_\_\_\_ {sin and lies}, {#1} we lie and {#2} do not practice the truth.” (1:6)
  - b) The true *condition about fellowship with God*: “But if we walk \_\_\_\_\_ as He is in the light, {#1} we have fellowship with one another {the believer with God}, and {#2} the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin {in our practical sanctification}.” (1:7)
  - c) The second *false claim about fellowship with God*: “If we say that we have \_\_\_\_\_ {nature}, {#1} we deceive ourselves, and {#2} the truth is not in us.”
- 3) The *condition to restore fellowship with God*. (1 John 1:9-10) Your choices as a believer when God convicts you of personal sin is ...
  - a) to \_\_\_\_\_ your sins: “If {3<sup>rd</sup> class} we confess {homologeo – to speak the same thing or agree with God} our {no one else’s} sins {true violations of God’s will in attitude, motives, words, or actions}, He is faithful and just {#1} to forgive us our sins and {#2} to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” What is the purpose of this confession of sin?
  - b) to \_\_\_\_\_ your sins: “If we say that we have not sinned {we cover, justify, excuse our sin}, we {#1} make Him a liar, and {#2} His word is not in us.”
    - How does walking by faith or faith-resting in the Lord come into play in all this?
    - What are some misuses of 1 John 1:9?
      - 1) Its \_\_\_\_\_ use — this merely NAMES THE SIN without REPENTANCE or an intent to YIELD to the Lord and walk in the light.
      - 2) Its \_\_\_\_\_ use — this views 1 John 1:9 as a key to a spiritual state instead of RESTORING a relationship / fellowship.
      - 3) Its \_\_\_\_\_ — this views 1 John 1:9 as the key to living the Christian life instead of a corrective means to restoring fellowship with God so that the believer can again FAITH-REST in the Lord.
      - 4) It’s \_\_\_\_\_ — this views 1 John 1:9 as a RATIONALIZATION for sin. (1 John 2:1-2)
    - What are three biblical evidences of fellowship with God? (1 John 2:3-11; 4:1-3)
    - A closing invitation by Jesus Christ to you (Revelation 3:19-21):