Abiding in Light, Love, and Life

Revelation That Makes a Difference

The nature of Christianity is extremely practical. Eternal life is found only in Jesus the Christ who made himself known to his apostles. Those who by grace have experienced the life-transforming relationship with Him obediently make Him known to others. People from every nation, tribe and language experience a oneness of community because of the bond they share in having received life and the forgiveness of sins through God's Son, Jesus Christ. Complete joy is experienced in seeing people trust Jesus and obey Him.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. To what does the first word (That) of the first verse of the first chapter of 1 John refer? What clues do you have to draw that conclusion?
- 2. The phrase "from the beginning" appears seven times in 1 John (1:1, 2:7, 2:13, 2:14, 2:24, 3:8, 3:11). What is the importance of this phrase?
- 3. Identify the various sensory words used in 1 John 1:1-4. What significance is there in the use of these types of words?
- 4. The phrase "made manifest" is used twice in 1 John 1:2. Why is this important? How was the word of life "made manifest"? What is the result of this manifestation?
- 5. The phrases "proclaim to you" and "proclaim also to you" are found in 1 John 1:2, 3. Why is proclamation so important? How are you presently involved in proclamation? How might you work on improving your involvement?
- 6. What is the goal of proclamation? (1 John 1:3b) How would you define "fellowship"? Who is this fellowship with? What does this fellowship produce?
- 7. How is joy completed in the life of the writer? How might this idea spur you on to "love and good works"? What are some ways that you have been encouraged by the lives of fellow church members?

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Way to Pray:

Thank God for the life that comes only through His Son, Jesus. Thank Him for sending His One and Only Son into the world to live the life you could have never lived and to offer the sacrifice you could have never offered. Thank God for the fellowship that you enjoy with Him as a result of the finished work of Jesus. Ask God for the grace and strength to persevere in living in a way that honors Him and testifies of His power in your life. Ask God to give you opportunity and humility in proclaiming Jesus to those who don't yet know Him.