



Forgiven

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

June 11, 2017

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness..- 1 John 1:5-2:2 (9)

John makes it clear that fellowship with God is not a matter of being chummy with your good buddy in the sky! He asserts that God is absolutely holy (1:5). To have genuine fellowship with the holy God, we must walk in the light, as He Himself is in the light.

How Will I Find Forgiveness? – 1 John 1:5-2:2

1. Live in the _____. (1:5-7)

Why did John focus on Holiness rather than Love?

- Without Holiness there is no need for the _____
- Holiness exposes _____ of fellowship with God
- Holiness saves us from _____ in times of trouble
- Holiness is the only pathway to _____

2. Face Your _____. (1:8-10)

Corrie Ten Boom's observation about the futility of rationalizing our sins. She said, "*The blood of Jesus never cleansed an excuse.*"

3. Choose not to _____. (2:1-2)

- God's _____ for our sin - Advocate/Atoning Sacrifice
- God's _____ for our life - Holiness/Life w/o Sin

Your Move – Refuse to give in to ...

_____ ... believing a person could sin & still be in fellowship with God (6,7)

_____ that sin is not a part of my nature (8,9)

_____ that I'm no longer prone to sin (10)

While truth does not guarantee genuine faith, truth applied to life will produce Authentic Christianity.

Truth for Life

For the week of June 11, 2017

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Define authentic. If authenticity is a goal you would pursue, what kinds of things might you do to become authentic? What criteria would you use to measure authenticity in your life?
2. Thinking about personal authenticity ... to whom are you most interested in being authentic before; Yourself, Friends/Family, or God? Can you be seen as authentic to one and not the other? Before whom is it most difficult to be authentic? Before whom do you spend the most time/effort in being seen as authentic?
3. How would you specifically describe a person "doing religion to get out of a jam" compared to a person who's honestly seeking forgiveness? Facing the truth about ourselves is one of the first steps in dealing with "skeletons" and mistakes from our past. Check out the very first account of a couple facing some hard truth. Read Genesis 3:6-13 and jot down a few observations on how they responded to their mistakes. Can we ever know real forgiveness without honesty and transparency? Compare to Proverbs 28:13-14.
4. Define repentance. Is repentance necessary for forgiveness?

Action Step Challenge ...

The challenge to become Authentic in our faith is a personal challenge to put our faith into action. It begins with what we believe and continues with how we act. That doesn't mean radical change all at once. It means taking one step. Whatever your next step is . . . take it. Whatever your point of challenge right now is, that's where God wants to work in your life.

1. If authenticity is the measurement stick, what area of your life do you need to work on to become more Authentic?
2. What can this group do to support you?

Memory Verse

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. – 1 John 1:6



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How Will I Find Forgiveness? – 1 John 1:5-2:2

1. Live in the **Light**. (1:5-7)

Why did John focus on Holiness rather than Love?

- Without Holiness there is no need for the **Cross**
- Holiness exposes **false hopes** of fellowship with God
- Holiness saves us from **blaming God** in times of trouble
- Holiness is the only pathway to **real joy**

2. Face Your **Failures**. (1:8-10)

Corrie Ten Boom's observation about the futility of rationalizing our sins. She said, "*The blood of Jesus never cleansed an excuse.*"

3. Choose not to **Sin**. (2:1-2)

- God's **Provision** for our sin – Advocate/Atoning Sacrifice
- God's **Intention** for our life – Holiness/Life w/o Sin

Your Move – Refuse to give in to ...

Rationalization ... believing a person could sin & still be in fellowship with God (6,7)

Faulty Assumptions that sin is not a part of my nature (8,9)

Pride that I'm no longer prone to sin (10)

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