

THE XJC CHALLENGE: FINDING JOY

Scripture: 1:1-10
Series: XJC -- EXTREME JESUS COMMUNITY (1 John)
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⇒ *Joy is found by focusing on Jesus and His community.*

*We are writing these things so that our joy will be complete.
(1John 1:4)*

FOUNDATIONS FOR JOY

1. F : BELIEVE THE MESSAGE (1ST JOHN 1:1-2)

AUTHENTIC MESSAGE:

1 The One who existed from the beginning is the One we have heard and seen. We saw Him with our own eyes and touched Him with our own hands. He is Jesus Christ, the Word of life. 2 This One who is life from God was shown to us, and we have seen Him. And now we testify and announce to you that He is the One who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then He was shown to us. (1st John 1:1-2)

Q: WHAT MAKES A MESSAGE AUTHENTIC/REAL?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

2. F _____ : ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP (1ST JOHN 1:3-5)

A. The Message leads to F _____

3 We are telling you about what we ourselves have actually seen and heard, so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. (1st John 1:3)

TWO-WAY FELLOWSHIP:

- _____
- _____

B. This Message leads to _____

4 We are writing these things so that our joy will be complete. 5 This is the message He has given us to announce to you: God is light and there is no darkness in Him at all. (1st John 1:4-5)

C. God is _____

1) _____

2) _____

Implications as to God being light:

- a) God as Light reveals His _____.
- b) God as Light reveals God's _____.
- c) God as Light refers to His _____.
- d) God as Light refers to His _____.
- e) God as light reveals our _____.

3. F _____ : AVOID THE DARKNESS (1:6-10)

TRAITS OF SPIRITUAL DARKNESS:

- a) Darkness stands for _____
- b) Darkness is hostile to _____
- c) Darkness stands as _____
- d) Darkness is connected to _____

THREE ERRORS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

1) 1:6-7 -- DENYING OUR _____

Problem: Living a _____

6 So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness. We are not living in the truth. (1st John 1:6)

Solution: Living in _____

7 But if we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ is, then we have fellowship with each other, and the

blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from every sin. (1st John 1:7)

2) DENYING OUR _____ FOR SIN

8 If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong. (1st John 1:8-9)

Problem: 1:8 - _____ the Truth

Solution: 1:9 - _____ the Truth

3) 1:10 -- DENYING THE _____ OF OUR SIN

10 If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that His Word has no place in our hearts. (1st John 1:10)

One Solution: _____

9 But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.

◆ Our Responsibility: _____ it

◆ His Responsibility: _____ it