

STUDYING THE BOOK OF 1 JOHN
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 1 - The Word of Life - [1 John 1:1-4](#)

Read the following verses in the New Living Translation or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

[Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.](#)

1 We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. **2** This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us. **3** We proclaim to you 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. **4** We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 1 - The Word of Life - [1 John 1:1-4](#)

1. What was from the beginning? ([1:1](#))
2. What contact did the writer and this community of believers have with the Word of life? ([1:1](#))
3. How did God reveal Himself to us? ([1:2](#))
4. What was being proclaimed by this community of believers? ([1:2](#))
5. Where had the eternal life been, and to whom had it appeared? ([1:2](#))
6. Why were the author and his fellow believers telling others about Christ? ([1:3](#))
7. Define the word “fellowship.” ([1:3](#))
- 8.. With whom did this community of believers have fellowship? ([1:3](#))
9. Why was this letter written? ([1:4](#))
10. How is our fellowship with God related to our fellowship with other believers?

Lesson 2 - Walking in the Light - [1 John 1:5-10](#)

5 This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. 6 So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. 7 But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 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.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 2 - Walking in the Light - [1 John 1:5-10](#)

11. What message did the writer hear and declare? ([1:5](#))
12. What inconsistency did John address? ([1:6](#))
13. What results from "walking in the light"? ([1:7](#))
14. How were some apparently deceiving themselves? ([1:8](#))
15. What is the result of confessing one's sins? ([1:9](#))
16. In what way can a person make God out to be a liar? ([1:10](#))