



THIS WEEK:

MEMORIZE 1 John 1:7.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Day 1

READ 1 John 1:3-4 & 7, 1 John 4:7-8, and 1 John 5:13.

John writes so we may have confidence in our relationship with God. In these verses, what's the evidence/sign of our relationship with God?

Day 2

READ 1 John 2:9-11, 1 John 3:11-15 and 1 John 4:19-21.

What signs can indicate a lack of relationship with God?
What do anger, contempt, and disobedience do to love?

Last week we were asked to prayerfully consider our own love relationship with the Father.

What did the Spirit of God reveal? Do you love the people around you?
Do you love them in words and deeds? Or in theory?
Are you a forgiving person?
Do you love Jesus in theory? In words and deeds?

Write a prayer of honest confession of what His Spirit has revealed to you.

Day 3

According to 1 John, we face the danger of approaching our love relationship with God by resting in a false confidence based on something other than the truth revealed by the Spirit.

We may also attempt to create or restore the relationship by adjusting our behavior.

Instead John seeks to drive our focus back to our love relationship with God, the Father and Jesus, the Son (which will result in a life lived with evidence of that relationship).

READ 1 John 3:23-24 and John 15:5.

What does "living in God" and "remaining in Christ" look like for you today? This week?

PRAY: Father, keep my thoughts close to You throughout this day. Through the power of Your love, help me to love You more. Be the focus of all I am.

Day 4

READ Psalm 27:4-8.

Up now, slight man! Flee for a little while thy occupations; hide thyself for a time from thy disturbing thoughts. Cast aside now thy burdensome cares, and put away they toilsome business. Yield room for some little time to God, and rest for a little time in Him. Enter the inner chamber of thy mind; shut out all thoughts save that of God and such as can aid thee in seeking Him. Speak now, my whole heart! Speak now to God, saying, I seek Thy face; Thy face, Lord, will I seek. [St. Anselm] The Knowledge of the Holy - A.W. Tozer, pg 43

Are you doing the kinds of things which allow you to re-discover your love relationship with God? If not, what keeps you from doing them?

What are you doing to connect with God?

If you've been connecting with God in the same way for a while, what can you do to connect with Him in a fresh, new way?

Take a step today, to do whatever you need to do to find your way back to God. (paraphrasing A.W. Tozer)

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

Psalm 51:10-12

Day 5

What things do we do to restore, nurture, or pursue an earthly love relationship or friendship?

TAKE a few minutes to write some things that come to mind.

Can you do some of those things within your love relationship with God?

Perhaps you could **SPEND** more time listening by getting away from daily distractions to re-center and re-focus on Him.

READ Psalm 105:1-4.

According to this Psalm, **LIST** some ways the Psalmist connects with God.

Have you ever written a poem or a love song for someone?

CONSIDER incorporating worship/praise music into your time with God.

If music isn't your thing, look up worship lyrics and write out the words.

THINK about the things we do to restore, nurture, or pursue a love relationship or friendship.

What can you do to bring these things into your relationship with God?

USE the **PERSONALIZE IT** Bible study method in the verses below.

PRAY this prayer to God.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:9-11

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