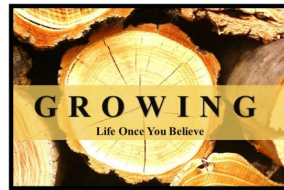


TRANSPARENCY

1 JOHN 1:5-2:1



Understanding Transparency

Needing Transparency

Enhancing Transparency

“There can be no transformation without revelation. We cannot overcome that which we will not admit... The things we deny about ourselves are the very things that deny us from the fullness of God.”
~ Rob Reimer

Enhancing (Cont.)

Practicing Transparency

“No one ever discovers ultimate freedom by protecting the dark corners of their soul... God’s light is a gift, not an intruder.” ~ Rob Reimer

Going Deeper

(For individual or small groups to go deeper with the passage)

- Study 1 John 1:5-2:1. Use Vine’s Dictionary of the New Testament (www.studylight.org) to look up “light” and “darkness”. How is John using those words in v. 5 and how is this slightly different in vv.6-7?
- What do you think it means to “walk in the light” or “walk in the darkness”? Why can this not mean to live without sin?
- Do you think John saw being “in the light” as something to fear or something to find? Why? How does knowing the gospel affect our fear?
- How does this passage speak to the need for transparency? What is gained as we live transparently with God and each other? How have you experienced this?
- What qualities would a community of people have in which transparency was celebrated and safe?
- Study 2 Cor. 1:1-11 as a case study for transparency. Where do you see Paul being transparent? How did this benefit Paul and his readers?
- Spiritual Exercise: Pray Psalm 139:23-24. If the Holy Spirit shines light into your heart and exposes a sin or struggle, identify a trusted friend, full of grace and truth, to whom you can confess the sin or share the struggle. Set up a meeting and go “walk in the light”.