

7-Fellowship of the Father

2/12/23

INTRO:

I. → 1 John 1:1-7

*1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the **Word of life**.*

*→ 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was **with the Father** and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have **fellowship with us**. And our **fellowship is with the Father** and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.*

*→ 5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have **fellowship with him** and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 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.*

II. THE FATHER OF CREATION—BEGINNING, WORD, LIGHT

BODY:

I. Experiencing His Word

*1 That which was from the beginning, which we have **heard**, which we have **seen** with our eyes, which we have **looked at** and our hands have **touched**—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.*

A. Relationship with the Lord is a hands-on experience.

1) Grk (*pselapháo*) to manipulate, handle

2) **Acts 17:26-28**

*“He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps **reach out for him** and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.”*

3) PLAYING WITH THE DOCTORS EQUIPMENT

B. Once you have experienced God no one can take it away.

1) **Acts 4:19-20**

*But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have **seen and heard.**"*

2) HAVING CAMP WITHOUT A CAMP

II. Proclaiming His Life

2 The life **appeared**; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has **appeared** to us.

A. The world does not need another explanation, it needs a demonstration.

1) Grk (*phaneróo*) manifest, express, demonstrate

2) **John 14:11**

Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

3) DOOR TO DOOR VACUUM SALESMAN

B. What binds us together is we all share the same Father.

1) **Ephesians 3:14**

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

2) PEOPLE FINDING FAMILY THROUGH ANCESTRY.COM

3) RAY STEVENS—"I'M MY OWN GRANDPA"

III. Walking in His Light

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.

A. Being in regular fellowship gives us perspective on life.

1) **1 John 2:9-10**

Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

2) **SILOED THINKING; TUNNEL VISION; GROUP THINK**

B. Once we are part of His family we will never be alone.

1) **1 John 3:1**

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

2) **EVERY PARENT IS A CHILD FIRST**

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

Psalms 34:8

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Matthew 5:44-45

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his
sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous
and the unrighteous.

1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may
grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is
good.