



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - June 17, 2012

Sermon

"Running the Race"

Psalm 51

1 John 1:5-10

1 John 2:1-2

by Ted Good

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 6/18/12

1 John 1:5-6

Light is an incredible thing. Just think about all the things we can see and do ever since the invention of electricity! And still, some people prefer to remain in the darkness. Sometimes we even deceive ourselves--saying we are close to Jesus when in reality we are far removed from him. Are you walking in the light of Jesus today? How do you know? What do others see in the way you are walking? Are you practicing the truth?

Tuesday 6/19/12

1 John 1:7

Walking in the light of Jesus has many benefits. One of the biggest benefits is to have the companionship of Jesus with us when we are making decisions and living out our lives. Another benefit is the fellowship we have with other Christians. This fellowship is a huge benefit! Think about it: since we are part of the Christian family, we never have to go through any difficulty or problem alone. We have others to lean on--others who can support us and pray for us. Thank God today for the church!

Wednesday 6/20/12

1 John 1:8-10

Each one of us sins. There is no denying that each one of us is a sinner. Oh, some people try to be deceptive with this or simply lie about it, but the truth is very clear. We cannot deceive ourselves because we are sinners and deep down we really know this. The great news is that when we confess our sin, God is faithful and righteous, and forgives our sins! As a matter of fact, God also cleanses us from all unrighteousness! This is the Good News that we have in Jesus. Today, confess your sins, and then give thanks to God for blotting out your transgressions!



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

Confess your sins... Name them, one-by-one, and give them over to God.

Spend some time with Jesus and enjoy living in the Light!

Give thanks to God that your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name!

Thursday 6/21/12
1 John 2:1

“My little children...” Each one of us is a child in God’s eyes! God wants the very best for each and every one of us! John exhibited this same trait when writing this letter to the church. The hope he had for all believers is that we would not sin. But John knew that we all do sin, so he gave us these comforting words: “But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous One.” We can and should take great comfort in this!

Friday 6/22/12
1 John 2:2

Jesus is the sacrifice that pays for our sin. John states this clearly in this verse. In fact, not only does Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross pay the debt for my sin and your sin, but also for all the sins of the whole world! Imagine the enormity of this gift. Jesus paid the price for us to give us hope and new life. We no longer need to bring the sacrifice of animals to the altar because Jesus’ sacrifice takes care of and atones for our sins like nothing else ever could!

Saturday 6/23/12
Psalm 51

This penitent psalm was written by David after his adulterous affair with Bathsheba. He begins by saying, “Have mercy on me, O God...” David knew his sin and he knew his sins were awful. Adultery and murder happened at the hands of David and he was living with the guilt that accompanies sin. We all feel this guilt whenever we sin and see the damage that is done at our hands. David cries out: “Against you - you above all - I have sinned.” Can you begin to see the guilt and shame in David’s voice? How do you deal with the shame and guilt of your sins? Do what David did--take them to the Lord!