Image and Identity

CONNECT break the ice and get people talking

- Describe a time when you wronged a friend or family member. How did you restore the friendship?
- Are you an early bird or night owl?
- Discipleship check-in (at the bottom of this guide!)

INTRODUCTION

The Apostle John isn't one to mince words. In his first letter, he wants to call us to a lifestyle of confession and faith. He wants us to see that the only way to walk before God in the light is by recognizing that there is something wrong with us. When we realize and confess the reality of our spiritual condition, Jesus is there to be our advocate.

Take time to pray for yourselves that you will be open to what the Spirit might speak to you.

READ & DISCUSS

<u>READ:</u> 1 John 1:5-2:2

DISCUSS:

- How are verses 6-7 related to verses 8-9?
- John makes the statement that God is light. What do you think he means by this? What is the purpose of light in everyday life?
- If God is light, why can't we have fellowship with Him and walk in the darkness?
- Jesus is referred to as the advocate, the righteous, and the propitiation for our sins. What do these descriptions of him mean?

REFLECT & APPLY

DISCUSS:

- What do you think makes you want to come to God and confess your sins? What holds you back?
- Take 5 minutes to write down or process what sins God is calling you to confess. After confess your sins to each other and pray for one another. Proclaim your identity in Christ over each other. (Ex. Ephesians 2:11-22)

PRAY

Praise Jesus who is our advocate, our righteous one, and the propitiation of our sins. Pray that each of us would walk in daily confession and receiving of Jesus' forgiveness.

Discipleship Check-In

- Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?