**GIVING LIFE TO LIVING SERIES**

**“God is Calling Us!”**

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**1 John 1:5-2:6 (The Message)**

**Walk in the Light**

5This, in essence, is the message we heard from Christ and are passing on to you: God is light, pure light; there’s not a trace of darkness in him.

6-7If we claim that we experience a shared life with him and continue to stumble around in the dark, we’re obviously lying through our teeth—we’re not *living* what we claim. But if we walk in the light, God himself being the light, we also experience a shared life with one another, as the sacrificed blood of Jesus, God’s Son, purges all our sin.

8-10If we claim that we’re free of sin, we’re only fooling ourselves. A claim like that is errant nonsense. On the other hand, if we admit our sins—make a clean breast of them—he won’t let us down; he’ll be true to himself. He’ll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing. If we claim that we’ve never sinned, we out-and-out contradict God—make a liar out of him. A claim like that only shows off our ignorance of God.

2 1-2I write this, dear children, to guide you out of sin. But if anyone does sin, we have a Priest-Friend in the presence of the Father: Jesus Christ, righteous Jesus. When he served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for good—not only ours, but the whole world’s.

**The Only Way to Know We’re in Him**

2-3Here’s how we can be sure that we know God in the right way: Keep his commandments.

4-6If someone claims, “I know him well!” but doesn’t keep his commandments, he’s obviously a liar.

His life doesn’t match his words. But the one who keeps God’s word is the person in whom we see God’s mature love. This is the only way to be sure we’re in God. Anyone who claims to be intimate with God ought to live the same kind of life Jesus lived.

1. **God calls us to walk in the light.**

**5**This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. **6**So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. 1 John 1:5-6 (NLT)

1. **God calls us to walk in transparency, honesty, and humility.**

**8**If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. **10**If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

1 John 1:8, 10 (NLT)

1. **God calls us to walk in the freedom and joy of forgiveness.**

**9**But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:9 (NLT)

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. **2**He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. 1 John 2:1-2 (NLT)

**Action step**: Let’s resolve keep moving forward in our faith journey in the confidence that living in the light of God’s ways and his forgiveness is the good life.