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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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The Reality of Sin

1 John 1:5–2:2

Series: Reality Check – (re)Aligning Our Lives to the Way of Jesus

Central Passages

1 John 1:5–2:2 (ESV) — **5** This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice 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 cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. **1** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. **2** He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Central Thought: True fellowship with God and our fellow believers begins with being honest with ourselves before God about our dark desires and sinful intentions.

- ❖ God is perfect in intention and action and is the source of our very existence. (vs. 5)

Genesis 1:3–5 (ESV) — **3** And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

1 Timothy 6:16 (NLT) — **16** He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will. All honor and power to him forever! Amen.

- ❖ We are sinful and easily lie to ourselves and God regarding our selfishness and rebellion. (vs. 6, 8 & 10)

Isaiah 53:6 (NIV) — **6** We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 3:23 (ESV) — **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

Genesis 3:7 (ESV) — **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

- ❖ Jesus is faithful and offers forgiveness and renewal to all who look to him in faith. (vs. 7, 9, 2:1-2)

Mark 1:15 (NIV) — **15** "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

John 3:16 (ESV) — **16** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 6:23 (ESV) — **23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.