

# IN THE LIGHT

THE LETTERS  
OF JOHN



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## SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET

### THE STORY BEHIND THE TEXT

John 4:1-42

John 21:15-19

NOT DEALING WITH THE \_\_\_\_\_, ROBS  
US OF OUR \_\_\_\_\_.

### HOW TO DEAL WITH OUR PAST

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*  
1 John 1:9

*My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*  
1 John 2:1-2

Luke 19:10

Hebrews 7:24-25

1 Peter 2:24

Revelation 12:10

1 Peter 5:8

John 10:10

Romans 7:24-25

Romans 8:1-2

1 Timothy 2:5-6

- WE WILL HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_.
- WE WILL HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_.
- WE WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT \_\_\_\_\_,  
NOT \_\_\_\_\_.

## HOW TO MOVE FORWARD

Revelation 12:10-11

John 8:31-32

Ephesians 5:8

Galatians 5:1

OUR PAST WILL BE SATAN'S \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
OR GOD'S \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill in the blanks:** past, future, face the truth, accept the truth, grace, guilt, greatest weapon, most powerful tool.

*This Study Guide will help you go deeper throughout the week with daily scripture reading and questions for your own personal reflection and application. It is also designed to be used for discussion with your family, friends, and Life Group.*

## OPEN UP

When you were growing up who were the people or what was the area you were told to avoid?

## UNDERSTANDING JOHN'S WRITING

Because the Samaritans were considered spiritual and ethnic half-breeds, the Jews of Jesus' day would travel extra miles to go around and avoid passing through Samaria. Instead of avoiding it, Jesus takes his disciples right through the heart of Samaria. Not only that, but Jesus stopped to spend time with a woman of questionable reputation. Even more amazing is that in John's Gospel, this woman is the first person to whom Jesus reveals his identity as the Messiah (John 4:25-26).

## JESUS TALKS WITH A SAMARITAN WOMEN (JOHN 4:1-26)

Why was the Samaritan woman surprised that Jesus spoke to her (4:9)?

How did Jesus respond to the Samaritan woman's questions (4:10 & 13)?

How does the woman respond to Jesus' offer of "living water" (4:15)?

Why do you think Jesus changes the topic of conversation so abruptly to her personal life (4:16-18)?

Why do you think this woman changed the conversation to focus on a religious controversy (4:19-20)?

## DISCIPLES REJOIN JESUS (JOHN 4:27-30)

What does “leaving her water jar” reveal about Jesus’ impact on the woman (John 4:28)?

What is it that stood out to the woman about Jesus (John 4:29)?

## MANY SAMARITANS BELIEVE (JOHN 4:39-42)

What is significant about Jesus choosing this woman as the first person to whom he revealed himself (4:25-26, 39-42)?

It is surprising that the people listened to this woman? Why do you think they did?

## FINDING TRUE FREEDOM FROM YOUR PAST (1 JOHN 1:8-9)

What is the result of trying to hide our past sin and failures (1 John 1:8)?

How much of our sin/past does Jesus promise to cleanse us from (1 John 1:9)?

## APPLY

In which area of your life or past do you struggle to feel forgiven or acceptable to God? How can you apply John 4 and 1 John 1:8-9 to this part of your life or past?

## CHALLENGE

Who is a “woman at the well” that you encounter in your life? What is one thing you can do to start up a conversation or share the message of “living water” with him or her this week?

### This Week’s SOAP Bible Reading

Day 1 - John 4:1-15

Day 2 - John 4:16-26

Day 3 - John 4:27-30

Day 4 - John 4:39-42

Day 5 - 1 John 1:8-9