

# NEW CREATION CHURCH

Small Group Guide

Week of May 24, 2026

## Small Group Guide: Small Groups Discussion Guide: 1 John – Part 3

(Based on May 17, 2026 Teaching)

### Key Scripture Passages

- 1 John 2:1-11

### Key Takeaways

1. **We Have an Advocate:** Jesus Christ serves as our advocate (lawyer) before the Father, presenting His blood as evidence that our sins are covered.
2. **Fellowship Requires Honesty:** Confessing our sins isn't about getting saved again—it's about maintaining honest fellowship with God, like acknowledging when you've stepped on someone's toe.
3. **The Word Produces Righteousness:** God's Word is given to us so that we may not sin. The more we receive it, the more righteousness should be evident in our lives.
4. **Love Is the Evidence:** The clearest sign that we know God isn't our accomplishments or possessions—it's whether we keep His commandments and walk in love.
5. **Jesus Is Our Atonement:** Christ took our sin upon Himself and gave us His righteousness. He is the propitiation not just for our sins, but for the whole world.

### Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean that Jesus is our "advocate" with the Father? How does this change your perspective when you sin or feel condemned?
2. According to verse 3, how do we know that we truly know God? What does "keeping His commandments" look like practically in daily life?
3. The sermon stated: "Some people love to discuss the Word of God... but they're not as interested in doing the Word of God." Why is it easier to talk about God's Word than to actually obey it?
4. What's the difference between occasionally stumbling in sin versus making sin "normative" (a pattern) in your life? How can we help each other recognize the difference?
5. The sermon said, "If you walk in love, you have no occasion of stumbling." How does walking in love protect us from stumbling?
6. "Hurt people hurt people, but loved people love people." Can you elaborate on this statement?

### Practical Application

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

1. **Honest Fellowship:** Each day, take a moment to honestly acknowledge before God anything you've done wrong that day. Thank Him for His forgiveness and cleansing.
2. **Scripture Memorization:** Memorize 1 John 2:1-2 to remind yourself that you have an Advocate.

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3. **Reconciliation Step:** If the Holy Spirit brings someone to mind you need to reconcile with, take one concrete step this week (call, text, meet for coffee).
4. **Love Audit:** Each evening, review your day and ask: "Did I walk in love today? Where did I succeed? Where did I fail?"

## Prayer Focus

1. **Cleansing:** That God would reveal any hidden sin and give us courage to confess it
2. **Love:** That God would help us love others the way He loves us
3. **Obedience:** That we would be doers of the Word and not hearers only
4. **Our Advocate:** Thank Jesus for continually presenting His blood on our behalf

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**Final Thought:** "Your identity is not 'I've been hurt.' Your identity is 'I've been loved by God.'  
Loved People, Love People.