

**06 – Going Deeper – Honesty**

... what part does my relationship with “other followers of Jesus” play in me seeking a deeper relationship with God?

**The problem we face**

... the problem of loneliness

... no such thing in the bible as “independent” Christians

Ephesians 4:16... all joined together by every supporting ligament.. growing and building itself up as each part does its work?

Growing deeper together?

1 John 1:5-10

...if we ‘walk in the light’ then we will enjoy fellowship with one another

‘Walking in the light’ ... is connected to fellowship with one another AND our need for honesty about our sin.

1 John 1:7 ‘walking in the light’ results in us receiving cleansing from the blood of Jesus.

Dishonesty is ...

- 1) ... straight out lying.
- 2) Implicit dishonesty ... the impression of moral success when the truth is far different.

...when we are honest we will have REAL fellowship with one another.

**Objections and questions**

1) Just confess sin to God

James 5:16

2) Dirty laundry

... begin to be honest with those we are closest to

3) Pressure to change

When God forgives us he does not give a time scale to conquer that sin by.

Two powerful effects of honesty

...fellowship with one another

... the blood of Jesus cleanses us from ALL sin.

### Fellowship with one another

Honesty which leads to a deeper relationship ...

or dishonesty which leads to isolation and the pressure to keep up appearances.

### The danger of salvation by works

You could think I have been saying that honesty **MAKES** you properly forgiven.

... honesty together enables us to **FEEL** that forgiveness at a deeper level

### Where to from here?

Firstly ... we should pursue real honesty together.

Secondly... we should prayerfully find a trustworthy Christian friend.

Thirdly ... humble ourselves into the death of honesty