

**Basis for Fellowship**  
**1 John 1:5-2:2**

**I. Commonality – 1:5-7**

1. Created in God's image – Gen 1:26-27  
Sin has marred that image breaking fellowship
2. God is light, no darkness in Him – 5  
He is absolutely holy, pure, perfect  
He is immutable – He cannot change
3. Fellowship must be based on Him – 6  
We must walk in the light  
If not there can be no fellowship
4. Christ makes fellowship possible - 7  
His blood cleanses us from all sin

**II. Confession – 1:8-10**

1. Sin must be acknowledged – 8  
Light is pure & reveals all darkness  
To say we have no sin is to deceive our self  
And to demonstrate the truth is not in us  
God is absolute truth & we are not  
Thus we cannot be in fellowship with Him
2. God offers forgiveness, cleansing – 9  
It is a gift of His grace – not based on us  
If we come to Him as a guilty sinner  
If we confess, acknowledge our sin  
He is faithful & just to forgive us  
He is faithful because He has promised  
He is just because the penalty has been paid
3. To deny our sin is to call God a liar – 10  
God is truth & He speaks truth  
He says that we are guilty sinners  
To deny that is to say He did not speak truth  
God's truth is not in us  
On that basis there can be no fellowship  
For there is no commonality

**III. Cleansing – 2:1-2**

1. How is fellowship with God possible?  
He is absolutely righteous, pure, holy  
And we are guilty sinners  
Fellowship can only be as we are as He is  
John's desire is that we would not sin - 1  
But the reality is that we do sin
2. Christ is our righteous advocate – 1  
We stand before God "in Him"  
We are in Him by faith  
God sees us in Christ's righteousness
3. Christ is our propitiuous sacrifice – 2  
He became one with us to be our advocate  
He took our sins upon himself as Savior  
He paid in full the penalty of our sin  
God is totally satisfied with His sacrifice  
Sin has been dealt with in Christ's offering  
There is nothing to hinder fellowship with God

4. This sacrifice is for all humans – 2  
The sins of the whole world  
Now it is back to confession of guilt  
And faith in Jesus Christ as Savior  
John 3:16-18