

LOSING YOUR VERTIGO

AND REGAINING YOUR
DIVINE EQUILIBRIUM



Extended Notes for: Vision Sunday // January 26, 2014

1 John 1:1-4 – *Lose Your Vertigo*

Introduction:

Sometimes our lives get out of balance and become one long season of *vertigo*: spinning round and round with no balance or measure. What we need in such times is to regain our equilibrium. This is also true of us spiritually as well! 1 John is a short letter written by one of Jesus' closest friends to a cluster of churches who were experiencing spiritual vertigo – and John instructs them in how to get equilibrium back.

Sermon Notes:

READ 1 John 1:1-3a

John writes to us as a *first-hand witness* of Jesus Christ

- Eternal life is not a _____ but a _____.

READ Gen. 3:21-24

God covers Adam & Eve's nakedness (i.e. "SIN") by the shed blood of another

God exiles humanity from His *presence* (i.e. "LIFE")

Humanity can only experience God "spiritually" but not yet physically

**Jesus died so that His blood could PERMANENTLY take away our sin/shame;
Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit so we could be PERMANENTLY brought into God's
family; Jesus promises us an end-time resurrection like His so that we can be
PERMANENTLY and PHYSICALY in His presence forever.**

God's goal for us is not that our souls will go to HEAVEN when we die but to give us new BODIES to indwell the new heavens and earth (i.e. kingdom) that He is bringing about through Jesus.

READ 1 John 1:3b-4

The biblical gospel is not about me going to heaven but us living together _____ with Jesus (God's presence; _____) for ETERNITY.

Evangelism is nothing more than inviting others to share in our joy of discovering God in Christ

Questions for Reflection:

1. God is not so concerned about getting our souls to heaven as He is about preparing our bodies for resurrection. Agree or disagree?
2. John defines eternal life not as a *destination* but a *person*. What significance does that have for how you think about your daily life right now, *in the present moment*?
3. John says that his goal in writing is to increase the fellowship of church. Do you think it's possible to have true fellowship with Jesus apart from the church? Why or why not?
4. John says that it's his joy to share his faith in Jesus. Is there anything that is preventing you from having the same freedom John does when it comes to sharing your faith? Why or why not?