

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

**05/04/18 - Confession Comes Before Forgiveness**

RG AUDIO 050418

1 John 1:1-10

When I was a teenager, I had a set of drums in my room. Several times over the years I got up in the middle of the night for a drink of water and promptly tripped over one of those drum or cymbal stands. All I had to do to avoid stumbling around in the dark was turn on the light.

John says when Jesus comes, He sheds light in our lives and the darkness flees. Light shows things as they really are: dirt, messy rooms, and cymbal stands are revealed when one turns on the light. So it is in our spiritual lives. When Christ shines His light in our lives, everything gets revealed, including our sin. We cannot hide it anymore. We cannot keep going in darkness. We have to admit what is there so Christ can clean it. Confession is acknowledging what is there, even if it isn't pretty. The Good News is that when, enabled by God's grace, we confess the things revealed by the Light, God forgives us and then cleanses us. He can clean up a messy room so we don't have to stumble around in the dark any longer.

Author: Mark Hendrickson