OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who*, *What*, *Where*, *When*, *How*, *Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Think about Pastor Brady's definition of Fellowship (*koinonia*): To partake in the life of the Trinity and to partner in the purpose of the Trinity. What does it tell us about God that he would make a way to partake and participate with his life?

b) Read 2 Peter 1:3-4. What parts of God's nature does Christ allow us to partake (*koinonia*) in? Do you see your life this way? Why or why not?

2) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?

a) We said that to be in fellowship with God we have to get 1) Jesus right, 2) Our sin right, and 3) our love right.

1) Do you believe Jesus is both fully God and fully man? Is either of these more difficult for you to believe?

2) Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have offended God? Why or why not?

3) Do you have the love of God for others in your heart?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ? a) Read 1 John 2:1-2. What is Jesus called in these two verses? What does it mean to you that your sins are propitiated (covered/ God's wrath satisfied)? What does it mean to you that Jesus the Righteous is your advocate (standing in your place) when you sin?

APPLICATION

a) Think about your fellowship with God in terms of position and condition.

- Position: you are always in fellowship with God through Christ and his cross.
- Condition: you can feel like your fellowship with God is hurting, you can grieve God, and you may not be experiencing God's fellowship because of a wrong attitude or a lie that you are believing.

Why would it be so important to trust in your "position" in Christ first, before trying to change your "condition?"

FIGHTER VERSES: 1 John 1:3-7.

PRAYER

Praise God for your fellowship with the Trinity through Christ.

Confess ways that you have doubted God's great grace and mercy towards you.

Ask God to reveal your sin but also to reveal his deep mercy in the moment that you are sinning.