

### 3. We \_\_\_\_\_ an Advocate



## The Advocacy of Jesus

1 John 2:1

Sunday, August 8, 2021

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*As we continue studying the heart of Jesus this summer, we learn from 1 John 2:1 that Jesus's heart is so for us that He advocates for us when we sin. In the inevitability of our sin, Jesus Christ advocates for us. When we see our unrighteousness, we don't need to defend ourselves, but instead, we can rest in Jesus's perfect righteousness in our place as He advocates for us before the Father.*

### 1. What is an Advocate?

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#### NEXT STEPS to help us process and apply God's Word

- Memorize 1 John 2:1 to remind yourself of Jesus advocating for you when you sin.
- The next time you dishonor God, come to Him in confession picturing Jesus on your side advocating for you.

### 2. We \_\_\_\_\_ an Advocate

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**NEXT WEEK:** *The Beauty of Jesus*



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1 John 2:1

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*Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at [gracecentralcoast.org](http://gracecentralcoast.org).*

*This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.*

*During the COVID-19 crisis our groups are meeting live and virtually using Zoom and other online platforms.*

### CONNECT *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

We're encouraging you to read Dane Ortlund's *Gentle and Lowly* this summer. Who in your group is reading it? Are you reading any other books this summer?

### DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's Word together)*

1. Read 1 John 1:5–2:2 together as a group, sharing observations that stick out to you.
2. How did you "come under" God's Word in the text/message this week? What was new, fresh, challenging, or encouraging?

3. Discuss your understanding of the difference between Christ's intercession (last week) and His advocacy (this week).
4. How does understanding the doctrine of imputation (that Christ's righteousness is given to us) change the way you think of the gospel? Why is only thinking of our sins being forgiven not the full picture?
5. How does knowing we have Jesus on our side, advocating for us when we blow it change the way we view our relationship with God?
6. Does learning these last two weeks that Jesus is still acting on our behalf now change how you view Him? How can knowing these things motivate us to greater love for, and allegiance to Christ?

### PRAY *(use these prompts to pray in response to God's Word)*

Using Hebrews 1 John 1:8–2:1...

- Praise God for the advocate we have when we fail and sin.
- Pray we would truly understand what it means for us to possess the righteousness of Jesus Christ himself.
- Pray these truths would lead us away from sin and deeper into a life of loving and following Christ.