



April 10, 2016

MAIN TEXT:
John 8:12

I AM
The Light of the World

GETTING STARTED

Talk about “dark places.” Do not spiritualize this, but talk about the darkest place you have ever been and how you felt there.

and...

What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

LESSON OVERVIEW

The lesson is the second of the “I AM” statements made by Jesus in the gospel of John where we are discovering the true identity of Christ. To fully understand what Jesus meant when he said, “I am the Light of the World” you need to comprehend the darkness. When Jesus pierced our world 2000 years ago in the form of a helpless baby, the light came into the world and people didn’t know what to do with him. And we still don’t because we have been normalized by darkness. This lesson will reveal the nature and purpose of the light.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. As a group, read John 8:12-30 out loud before you start.
2. Jesus stood before the crowd and declared that he is the light of the world. What did Jesus mean when he said that his followers would not walk in darkness but instead have the light of life?
3. What are some of the benefits of light?

I AM the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness...

4. Darkness is all around us, and it can be disorienting. As a result, we have a tendency to normalize our sin and start believing that we can’t change. What are some examples of spiritual darkness in our world? How can darkness be disorienting to your walk with Jesus?
5. Is your definition of darkness different than the way our culture would define it?
6. Read Ephesians 5:8-14. If you are following Jesus and others who have shown you the light of Christ. What was it about him or her that caught your eye? Who in your life needs to see this light? How can you be a light bearer to him or her during our interactions?
7. Identify one way that you would like to impact your community with Jesus’ light this Spring. Share this with the group and ask them to hold you accountable for this.

TAKE IT HOME

application

Read John 3:19-21

In order to have the light of life, you need to recognize your need for it and also be prepared for what it might expose in your life.

What area of your life would you not want exposed to the light out of fear of what it would reveal?

Spend some time thinking how you can walk towards the light and glorify God instead of walking away from it in shame. What does this look like in your life?

READING PLAN

MONDAY

Isaiah 59:1-11

Isaiah 60:1-9

TUESDAY

Psalms 119:89-112

Psalms 119:129-136

WEDNESDAY

Matthew 4:12-17

Matthew 5:1-16

THURSDAY

Ephesians 5:1-21

FRIDAY

1 Peter 2:1-10