

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 8:12-30

Key Verse: 8:12

1. Read verse 12. In what respect did Jesus show himself to be the light of the world in his encounter with the Pharisees in verses 1-11? What does it mean to you to “walk in darkness,” to “have the light of life”? What does it mean to follow Jesus?
2. Read verses 13-20. Where and with whom did this conversation take place? How did the Pharisees challenge Jesus? What gives validity to Jesus’ testimony?
3. What is the difference between Jesus and the Jews in the matter of judgment? (15,16) Why is Jesus qualified to judge? Does he judge? Why or why not? Do the Jews judge? Whom did they judge? Are they qualified? Why or why not?
4. What do the Jews not know? (14,19,25) Read verses 20-30. What claims does Jesus make about himself? (12,16,19,29) What are the consequences of rejecting Jesus and denying his claims about himself? (21,23-24,26-27,28)
5. Note the contrast between light and darkness. What do you think is the nature of the darkness? Why are the Jews (Pharisees) so ignorant? What is the nature of their sin? Of their ignorance?
6. What is the significance of Jesus’ saying, “I am he”? (24,28–footnote) How can one know the Father? (19) Why do Jesus’ words have authority? (14,28,29)
7. What does he mean when he says, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man?” How can one know the Son? (28,12) How do we follow Jesus and have the light of life?