

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
The Gospel of John — Week 32

ICEBREAKER: What's your greatest physical challenge?

OVERVIEW: The human heart can be a very dark place. It can be poisoned with envy, pride, selfishness, and covetousness. It can be clouded with confusion and ignorance. It can be dominated by lust, hatred, unforgiveness, and sinful addictions. It can be weighted down with worry, depression, guilt, and loneliness. In fact, the human heart is the darkest place on earth. Is there any hope? Is there a way to illuminate the human heart and dispel the darkness? There is. His name is Jesus. He is the light of the world. In this discussion we will go deeper with how to follow the light, and how to let the light shine through us to others.

1. **Read John 8:12.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. By calling Himself the light of the world, was Jesus claiming to be God?
3. How does "light" symbolize the work of Christ in our lives?
4. Where do you most need the light of Christ to shine brighter in your life?

5. To receive the light of Christ, we must follow Him. What does it mean to follow Jesus?
6. Read Luke 9:23. In this verse Jesus explains how to follow Him. What does it mean to deny yourself? What does it mean to take up your cross?
7. How do you need to grow in following Jesus?
8. Read Matthew 5:14-16. What did Jesus mean by "You are the light of the world"? What do we need to do to shine brightly for Christ?

The Last Word: "In him was life, and that life was the light of men." John 1:4