



“The Light of the World” ~ September 23, 2018

OPEN

Can you describe a time when you were deprived of light?

How did you respond? Did it affect your health?

Most objects in our world do not emit their own light. Such objects can only be seen because they **reflect** light. Today we are considering the fact that Jesus is the Light of the World.

In John 8, Jesus declared Himself to be the only reliable **illumination** for humanity. Amazingly, He also calls His followers the light of the world!

DIG

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world” - John 8:12-20

Why is it not difficult to understand sin and separation from God as darkness?

What ways has humanity found to try and cope with this darkness?

What does John 1:5-6 and 9 state about Jesus’ role as a light which counteracts the darkness?

How did Simeon identify the infant Jesus according to Luke 2:32?

Read John 8:12-20. What was the back story for this teaching by Jesus – see verses 1-11 and John 7:12-13.

What does it mean to “have the light of life” as Jesus promised? See I John 1:7 and 2:9-10.

In John 8, as in many other passages, Jesus was particularly pointing to the hypocrisy and sin of the Jewish religious. These leaders...

...offered _____ solutions for internal problems - Matthew 15:14-20

...claimed to _____ the Father but rejected the Son - John 1:10-13

Jesus said, “You are the light of the world” - Matthew 5:14-16

Do you ever become **cynical** when Christians are called the light of the world? Why or why not?

“But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.”

I Thessalonians 5:4-5

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth.”

Ephesians 5:8-9

In what way can Christians display the fact that they are “children of the day” or “children of light”?

What kind of lights are we as Jesus’ followers? Do we understand that our role as a light in this world is to reflect the Father, and thus cast light upon Him, in the service of others.

Read Psalm 119:105. In what ways does the “living Word” (Jesus) shed light on our life’s path?

What might you need to do differently in order to follow His guidance?

REFLECT

Read the following passages and further reflect on the fact that Jesus is the light of the world, and He invites His followers to be the light of the world.

- **Leviticus 24:1-4**

The Tabernacle contained a golden lampstand which was to be a perpetual expression of worship to God by having the lamps constantly burning or ascending. How does your life express worship to God?

- **I Timothy 6:13-16**

Do you find it amazing that God is revealed as unapproachable in His holiness and yet He wants His followers to be His lights and representatives?

- **Isaiah 42:5-6**

God has always longed for His people to be a lighthouse of His love to others. How can we be lights in this world, beyond our community and country?

For further reading: [“Light Shines In The Darkness”](#)