JESUS IS THE LIGHT | EPISODE 5

Episode 5 Video Timestamps:

0:00-36:04 - Session 1: The Light of God In The O.T.

36:08-1:11:20 - Session 2: Jesus Is The Light

1:11:23-1:38:45 - Session 3: We Are The Light of Jesus

SESSION 1: THE LIGHT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Light of God:

- Insight and understanding
- Clarity and direction
- Majesty and glory
- Fire
- Life

John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, **"I am the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Psalm 27:1 - **The LORD is my light and my salvation;** whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Genesis 1:3-5 - And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Exodus 3:1-7 - Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Exodus 10:23 - They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the people of Israel **had light** where they lived.

Exodus 13:21 - And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of **fire to give them light**, that they might travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

Exodus 25:37 - You shall make seven lamps for it. And the lamps shall be set up **so as to give light** on the space in front of it.

Psalm 104:1-2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, you are very great!
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent.

Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a **light to my path.**

Psalm 119:130 - The unfolding of your words **gives light**; it imparts understanding to the simple.

Isaiah 2:5 - O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Isaiah 60:1-3 - Arise, shine, for **your light has come,** and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

The glory of God can be compared to light as well or visible, radiant majesty

So light can be <u>insight</u>, <u>understanding of the mind</u> as of light fills the innermost parts of a person to give <u>clarity and direction</u>. Light can be the fire or even the <u>glory of</u>

<u>God.</u> Light can be the <u>radiant beams</u> that emanate from the sun, moon, and stars to give sight and life on the earth because light is <u>interchangeable with life</u> in Scripture

SESSION 1: PERSONAL APPLICATION QUESTION

• Read through the Scriptures for this week and think about what "light" really is in the Bible.

SESSION 1: GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. How does the <u>light of God practically shine</u> into our lives? [Think of what His light is doing for people and why we need light]
- 2. What does it mean to <u>follow in the light</u> of Jesus? How have you personally been walking in the light of Jesus this week?
- 3. The first occurrence of light in the Bible is in the Creation story when God says "let there be light." What is the light doing or accomplishing in Genesis 1? What God is doing with light?
- 4. Psalm 27:1 says that God is our light. And, God often reveals His presence with a great light. Considering these truths, what does it mean that <u>God is our light</u>, both <u>eternally</u> and <u>daily</u>? (Think of those moments in the Bible where God appears with light and what He's doing)
- 5. In Exodus 10:23, God makes a distinction between the Egyptians and the people of Israel by giving Israel light while Egypt was in darkness. How does this image help us better understand what God's light is supposed to accomplish <u>in and through</u> our community?
- 6. Isaiah 2:5 invites us to walk in the light of the Most High God. What is Isaiah really inviting God's people to do? [Think of the connection between God's <u>light</u> and our <u>obedience</u>]

SESSION 2: JESUS IS THE LIGHT

John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 9:5 - As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Matthew 4:16 - the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

Matthew 17:2 - And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Isaiah 9:2 - The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Luke 1:79

Luke 2:32

John 1:4-5, 8-9

Acts 9:3

Acts 26:23

1 Timothy 6:16

1 John 1:5

Revelation 21:23-24

Revelation 22:5

SESSION 2: PERSONAL APPLICATION QUESTION

• Read through the Scriptures for this week and think about why Jesus is light, and how He shines into the world.

SESSION 2: GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. Can you recall when God's <u>light shined into your life</u>, and you trusted in Jesus as your salvation? (Share some of your testimony)
- 2. In what areas of your life, do you sense God is calling you to <u>step into His light?</u> What areas of your life and heart are still in the dark?
- 3. The Bible is constantly revealing that <u>Jesus is the light of the Father.</u> What do you think this means? What is this metaphor teaching us about Jesus' relationship with the Father?
- 4. Jesus' ministry on earth was often compared to a light that was shining into the darkness. What does this tell us about the work of Jesus, and the condition of the world?
- 5. Acts 26:23 tells us that Jesus come to proclaim light to all people. What role do we play in this? How are we apart of God's plan to share His light with all people?
- 6. In Revelation 22:5, it says that we will no longer need the light of the sun because God will be our light in the new world. And, this idea is connected to God's people reigning forever. What might this be teaching us about our future, as children of God?
- 7. Why does God use a body of believers to <u>shine His light</u> into the dark world? How does this affect God's glory, reputation, etc?

SESSION 3: WE ARE THE LIGHT OF JESUS

Matthew 5:13-16

John 12:36, 46

Romans 13:12

2 Corinthians 4:4-7

2 Corinthians 6:1

Ephesians 5:8-9

Colossians 1:12

1 Peter 2:9

1 John 1:7, 2:9

SESSION 3: PERSONAL APPLICATION QUESTION

• Read through the Scriptures for this week and think about how we become light, and why God gives us His light.

SESSION 3: GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. We are the light of Christ on the earth. What do you believe this means? [Consider what we've discussed about light so far, especially Jesus' relationship to the Father]
- 2. What are <u>some key differences</u> that you've noticed in your own life when you walk in God's <u>light vs.</u> when you walk in the <u>darkness</u>?
- 3. In Matthew 5:13, Jesus is talking to Israelites and telling them that they are the light of the world. How do you think they would've understood this? (Try to step into their shoes and consider their history with God choosing them)
- 4. John 12:36 tells us that we need to <u>believe in the light</u> to become <u>sons of the light</u>. Why does Jesus bring in this idea of "adoption" and "sonship" when He talks about the light?

- 5. And, what does this imply about those who don't trust in Jesus for salvation?
- 6. How might this inform our understanding of what it means to walk in the light? (Think of how identity fits into our lifestyle)
- 7. What are some ways that you can encourage those in your community to <u>walk in</u> <u>the light?</u> What can the leadership be doing, and what can the other members be doing?
- 8. What will it look like when a community is walking in the light of Jesus together? Is the evidence <u>JUST</u> personal holiness and religious activity?
- 9. God's people are called to be light in this dark world. But, does this mean that our church services should be designed to attract unbelievers? Why, or why not?
- 10. For most of your life, did you believe that church services should be designed for the world (evangelistic) or for believers (discipleship)? Or both?