



CONVERSATIONS

*what is Jesus
saying to you?*

THE LIGHT IN THE NIGHT
March 11th, 2018

TEXT: JOHN 8:12-30 ESV

The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. ...⁹ The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. - John 1:4-5,9 NLT

JESUS, AS THE LIGHT, TEACHES US...

1. THAT THE DARKNESS WITHIN IS REAL.

This is the crisis we're in: God-light streamed into the world, but men and women everywhere ran for the darkness. They went for the darkness because they were not really interested in pleasing God. Everyone who makes a practice of doing evil, addicted to denial and illusion, hates God-light and won't come near it, fearing a painful exposure. But anyone working and living in truth and reality welcomes God-light so the work can be seen for the God-work it is. - John 3:19-21 MSG

2. THAT HE IS THE SHEKINAH OF GOD.

The Lord went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and he provided light at night with a pillar of fire. This allowed them to travel by day or by night.²² And the Lord did not remove the pillar of cloud or pillar of fire from its place in front of the people. - Exodus 13:21-22 NLT

3. HOW HE COMES INTO FULL VIEW.

So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man on the cross, then you will understand that I AM he. I do nothing on my own but say only what the Father taught me." - John 8:28 NLT

*And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.
- John 12:32 NLT (see also 12:33-36)*

4. HOW THE PHOTOSYNTHESIS OF THE SOUL HAPPENS.

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." - John 8:12 NLT

HOW TO WALK IN THE LIGHT

This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. ⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. ⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. ⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.
- 1 John 1:5-9 NLT

- PRAYER
- OBEDIENCE
- CONTEMPLATION
- CONFESSION

The Lord is my light and my salvation— so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble? - Psalm 27:1 NLT

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK...

- Memorize **John 8:12**.
- Walk in the light as He is in the light, through obedience, prayer, confession, and contemplation.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK

A Small Group Guide

Read John 8:12-30

1. What is your most vivid “dark moment” as a kid (a cave, tunnel, power outage, etc.)?
2. Which of the four points above best teaches you how Jesus is the light of the world?
3. How do the religious authorities use the issue of 2-3 witnesses in a court of law to support a claim? How do they use this to deny the claims of Christ? How does he turn it on them?
4. How does Jesus’ statements about his Father and his going to a place they cannot come confuse the religious authorities? How do they misinterpret his statements?
5. How does Jesus’ claim to be “lifted up” as “the Son of Man” bring to the light who he really is? What does it point to in his life? Why is this significant?
6. Review the four points under “How To Walk In The Light.” Which one do you need to be focusing on more than the rest? Why? How?