

## **SERMON NOTES:**

**Manny Lotito**

**05-17-2026**

**John 8:12-30**

**Message title: continued conversation**

**Big idea: You must believe Jesus is who He says He is to have life**

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

**John 1:1-5** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

**John 3:19-20 NIV**

his is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

<sup>13</sup> The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not <sup>[a]</sup>true."<sup>14</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going.

### **1. Believing in Jesus is a life in the light**

<sup>15</sup> You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. <sup>16</sup> And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I *am* with the Father who sent Me. <sup>17</sup> It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true.

<sup>18</sup> I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me."<sup>19</sup> Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also."<sup>20</sup> These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come."<sup>22</sup> So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"<sup>23</sup> And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins."

## 2. Rejecting Jesus is death and a life in the dark

<sup>25</sup> Then they said to Him, “Who are You?” And Jesus said to them, “Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. <sup>26</sup> I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him.” <sup>27</sup> They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “When you lift<sup>[a]</sup> up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and *that* I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. <sup>29</sup> And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.” <sup>30</sup> As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

## 3. Look to the Cross to find ultimate understanding

### Group Discussion Leader Guide

#### LIFE Group Guide:

#### **General Timeline Guide: (Adjust as appropriate for your group's needs.)**

5-10 minutes connecting personally with how everyone is doing.

45 minutes going over message with discussion questions and life applications.

5-10 minutes praying for each other

#### **Discussion Questions**

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. Why would darkness be more appealing than coming to the light?
3. What are some ways we reject light in our lives? ie Defensiveness, shame
4. How can our own “moral goodness” or “religious works” actually further my resistance to light?
5. With vs 24 in mind, ..”For if you do not believe that I am He you will die in your sins.” What qualities of Jesus are easy to accept and what qualities of Jesus are easy to reject?
6. How does the Cross give us the ultimate understanding of God and ourselves?