

***Jesus is I AM!
I AM the Light of the World
John 8:12***

***The ILLUMINATION of Jesus unveils REVELATION
bringing SALVATION that leads to
TRANSFORMATION!***

*In our passage we are going to hopefully answer for you
three issues we all face...*

→ ISSUE #1 – Overcoming Fear

Question #1:

Would you like to live a LIFE without FEAR?

→ ISSUE #2 – Finding Purpose

Question #2:

***Would you like to know your life is GOING the right
DIRECTION?***

→ ISSUE #3 – Having Impact in life

Question #3:

***Would you like to know you are MAKING a
DIFFERENCE?***

***Through our key passage I hope we can help you find
answers to these issues...***

***John 8:12a (ESV) — Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I
am the light of the world...”***

***What does it mean when the verse begins, “AGAIN JESUS
SPOKE TO THEM...”***

This takes us back to John chapter 7...

“The Festival of Tabernacles”

***In John 7, while they are pouring pitchers of water in
celebration of the Lord’s supply of water from the rock in
the wilderness, Jesus cries out, “If anyone thirsts, let him
come to me and drink...”***

***SETTING: The Feast of the Tabernacles (Booths,
Ingatherings)***

- ***This was a time of great celebration.***
- ***This was in September/October at the end of the
gathering of crops.***
- ***Devout Jews would stay outside in grass huts to
commemorate the Israelites in the wilderness.***
- ***They performed two ceremonies.***
- ***First was the ceremony of water to remember how God
provided water from the rock for them in the desert.***
- ***The second took place in the TREASURY ROOM.***
- ***Four giant candelabras were standing in the room.***
- ***Vast amounts of oil was placed in the large cups at the
tops of each candelabra.***
- ***Worn out priestly garments were used for wicks.***

- **Each candelabra was lit and as the fire burned the ceiling was illumined with the glow of the fire.**
- **THIS CYMBOLIZED THE CLOUD OF FIRE THAT WAS ABOVE THE TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS.**

Numbers 9:15–16 (ESV) — On the day that the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony. And at evening it was over the tabernacle like the appearance of fire until morning. So it was always: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night.

It was here, in this setting, with the people gathered celebrating the GREAT CLOUD OF LIGHT, that Jesus spoke to them.

John 8:12 (ESV) — 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.”

Jesus is saying to them, “That cloud of light that was there in the wilderness... THAT WAS ME!”

Jesus is the light!

Question #1:

Would you like to live a life without fear?

So many of us live afraid of the dark.

We say, “There are monsters in there.”

Things suddenly begin to creek and crack.

1. Our PROTECTION in the Light

John 8:12 (ESV) — Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world...”

Shortly after the Israelites had exited Egypt, the Egyptians realized they had let all their slaves go and Pharaoh mounted his entire army to pursue the Israelites and bring them back to slavery.

As the Israelites looked they saw the horses and chariots of the Egyptian army approaching and fear gripped them.

Exodus 14:13–14 (ESV) — And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

Then listen to what happened next:

Exodus 14:19–20 (ESV) — Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

The CLOUD OF LIGHT stood between the Egyptians and the Israelites.

It was thick darkness on the Egyptian side.

But on the Israelite side it was a CLOUD OF FIRE TO LIGHT THE NIGHT.

The Lord Jesus was their SPIRITUAL NIGHT LIGHT.

For believers, you have the light, but still have times when the enemies of Egypt

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV84) — So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 John 4:18 (ESV) — There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

Question #2:

Would you like to know your life is going the right direction?

2. Our DIRECTION by the Light

John 8:12 (ESV) — ... “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness ...”

Jesus said that whoever follows Him will not be walking in darkness.

➤ **ILLUSTRATION: Walking in the dark**

- **How many of you get up at night and leave the lights off while you are making your way to the bathroom?**
- **Have you ever walked into a door that's half open?**
- **What about walking into an unfamiliar room with the lights off?**

- **We scoot our feet and wave our hands in front of us.**
- **Have you ever stepped on strategically placed LEGO's?**

Are you walking in the dark?

John 12:46 (ESV) — I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

He was also referring to the CLOUD OF LIGHT that was with the Israelites in the wilderness.

Numbers 9:18–23 (ESV) — At the command of the LORD the people of Israel set out, and at the command of the LORD they camped. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they remained in camp. Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle many days, the people of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not set out. Sometimes the cloud was a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the LORD they remained in camp; then according to the command of the LORD they set out. And sometimes the cloud remained from evening until morning. And when the cloud lifted in the morning, they set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they set out. Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out, but when it lifted they set out. At the command of the LORD they camped, and at the command of the LORD they set out. They kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by Moses.

So many people are looking for direction in life.

They go to this seminar and that self-help book.

Our problem is that we are looking around for the answers for direction rather than looking up.

The Israelites never moved unless the CLOUD OF LIGHT moved.

Some people just go about life never thinking that the Lord wants to guide their way.

I am asked all the time, “How do I know?”

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will GUIDE us into all the truth...

He does this primarily through the Word of God!

Psalm 119:105 (ESV) — Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

As you spend time in God’s Word, the Holy Spirit will begin to bring to light God’s directions for your life.

Isaiah 30:21 (ESV) — And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

Question #3:

Would you like to know you are making a difference?

3. Our REFLECTION of the Light

John 8:12 (ESV) — ... “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Jesus ends His statement by saying, “[you] will have the light of life.”

He is saying that whoever follows Him will POSSESS the LIGHT OF LIFE.

This means that we are REFLECTORS of the light.

Ephesians 5:8 (ESV) — For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

At one time we all groped around in DARKNESS, but when we gave our life to Jesus WE BECAME LIGHT!

Matthew 5:14–16 (ESV) — “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Isaiah 60:1–2 (ESV) — 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.

**Jesus is I AM!
I AM the Light of the World
John 8:12**

The _____ of Jesus unveils _____
bringing _____ that leads to
_____!

Question #1: Would you like to live a _____ without _____?

Question #2: Would you like to know your life is _____ the
right _____?

Question #3: Would you like to know you are _____
a _____?

1. Our _____ in the Light

2. Our _____ by the Light

3. Our _____ of the Light