

WHAT 'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD' MEANS FOR US

with Jordan Thome

FOCUS VERSES

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

DISCUSSION

- 1. Jordan begins by discussing the nature of light itself, even in a somewhat scientific context, and the many ways in which it benefits us.
 - a. Had you considered all the ways in which visible light is similar to Jesus Himself?
 - b. What part of that discussion made the biggest impact on you?
- 2. Jordan acknowledges that God's will for each of us—other than us having eternal life through His son—can be difficult to discern and understand. (See John 6:40.)
 - a. Over the course of your life, what sorts of things have you done to try and better understand His plan for you personally?
 - b. Did you receive answers from Him, and if so, were some of them difficult to hear?
- 3. Do you believe you're living in Jesus' light presently, or do you think you're occupying that "middle ground" with one foot in light and the other in darkness? (See Ephesians 5:8-14.)
 - a. What aspects of your life are keeping you half-stuck in that darkness?



- 4. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances." (See 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19.)
 - a. Discuss this advice from the apostle Paul and how you've followed it in your own life.
 - b. When are you more likely to heed these words, and when are you more likely to stray from them?
- 5. Jordan admits there have been times in his past when he tried to handle challenging situations or relationships according to his own logic or desires rather than God's, and came away disappointed.
 - a. Did that resonate with you?
 - b. Think back to a time when you tried to handle a difficult situation but failed to control it according to your own wants. If you could go back and handle that same situation, what would you do differently?
 - c. Did you gain any experience or wisdom from that failure that ended up being valuable down the road?

Following Jesus should have a measurable change in our life and in how we live our life. (See Matthew 5:14-16.)

- 1. Acknowledge Jesus is the Light of the World.
- 2. Measure the effectiveness of your light.
- 3. Recognize you have an adversary, but you have the Holy Spirit.
- 4. Let your light shine before men.