
I Am the Light of the World

John 1:1-11

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. **6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. **8** He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. **9** The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

Discussion Questions

1. Jesus, as light, is the true map. He reveals the truth about God, about our world, and about how to get from here to our ultimate destination. In what ways have you experienced concrete guidance about truth and direction from Jesus? How has He provided you with a map?
2. The world does not know Jesus (John 1:9-10) but prefers the darkness. Skepticism and deconstructionism seek to undermine our confidence in any of our knowledge, especially our knowledge of God. How have you seen the world resist or suppress knowledge of God? How have you experienced it in your own life?
3. Jesus, as light, corrects our errant instincts. Jesus also reveals moral purity and defines goodness in His role as light. Reflecting on Jesus's life, teaching, and actions, explain how He has defined the nature of goodness for you.
4. The world loves darkness rather than the light (John 3:19). How have you seen in your own life a love for darkness or an aversion to the expression of light? Are you in a place where you can recognize and acknowledge those issues? How have you seen light overcome darkness (John 1:5) in your life?
5. What is the significance of Jesus being the light of the world rather than the light of one nation or people? How does that affect the way we view other nations and ethnicities?