

Small Group Discussion Guide

“At the Movies” (pt. 1) – 9/14/2014

Scripture: John 8:12; 25-30

Bottom Line: Jesus is the light that overcomes our darkness.

INTRODUCTION: Who is Jesus really? The world has many different answers for that question. However, we do not want to concern ourselves with what the world says about Jesus as much as what Jesus says about himself. So today we will look at who Jesus says that he is and how that helps us in following him.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read John 8:12; 25-30

What is the connection between Jesus saying, “I AM the Light of the world” and God saying “I AM THAT I AM” in Exodus 3?

- Jesus is saying that he is the God, just as God the Father is God.

So what does it mean when Jesus says that he is ‘the light’?

- Pastor Adam says that it means 3 main things:
 - Light is the power for a healthy, growing life.
 - Light guides us on the path of full life.
 - Light always overcomes the darkness.

Let’s focus on these 3 statements for a while and discuss them.

UNDERSTANDING HOW THE GOSPEL APPLIES TO MY LIFE:

Light is the power for a healthy, growing life.

In verse 12, what does it mean to have the light of life?

- Jesus is the source of light. To follow Jesus means to grow holistically as a person. Jesus doesn’t just want your spiritual life to be healthy. He intends

to make healthy changes to every area: marriage, parenting, fitness, finances, friendships, etc.

The light exposes the darkness. Gross things live in the dark. This includes our lives. What have you been keeping in the dark that needs to be brought into the light?

- Doubt, anger, addiction, pride, greed, fear, infidelity, hurt, abuse, etc.
- Confess these to your brothers and sisters in Christ. Use wisdom, knowing that some things are better confessed with your own gender. Know that The Crossing Church is a safe place to bring things into the light.

Light guides us on the path of full life.

Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness. Let this promise give you hope.

What are you being guided by in life?

- Comfort, Security, Approval, Fear, Wealth...there are many things that claim to be a better guide in life than Christ, but all fall short of him.
- Read Psalm 119:105
- Let the Word of God be your guide. Read the Bible daily for the series. Scripture readings are posted on Facebook throughout the week.

Light always overpowers darkness

Jesus ultimately triumphs over all evil and sin.

Is your hope anchored in a sure promise?

- What better guarantee can there be for overcoming darkness than the resurrection of Jesus? Jesus, in John 6, makes the claim that if we put our trust in him, he will raise us from the dead.
- Show that you have the secure promise by letting your light shine before men. Show them the love of Jesus in your words and actions.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

Finish the sentence.... "Because I have the light of Christ, this week I will _____ in order to make his light known to others.

- Example: Invite a neighbor to church
- Example: Encourage and assist a coworker