

I am...the light of the world

7 defining "I am" statements

Jesus is who He says He is

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- Instead of allowing culture or tradition to define Him, Jesus says who He is
- I am the bread of life
 - Followers will never hunger or thirst again

John 8

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- They don't care who they use as long as they accomplish their purpose
- Their evil attempts, however, are used by God to bring about His purpose

Romans 8:28

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

John 8

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John 8

- These men intended to use this woman to ridicule Jesus, but instead she reveals their own sin
- This woman, instead of finding judgment and condemnation, finds grace and mercy and forgiveness
- She's also given hope for a new life
 - Go and sin no more

John 8:12

"Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, 'I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.'"

I am the light of the world

- Bread of life
 - Not just my life, but of life

I am the light of the world

- Bread of life
 - Not just my life, but of life
- Not just a light
 - The light

I am the light of the world

- Bread of life
 - Not just my life, but of life
- Not just a light
 - The light
- Not just in my life
 - The world

I am the light of the world

- Definite statements

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 - Jesus is the light of the world

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 - Jesus is the light of the world
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I am the light of the world

- Definite statements
 - Jesus is the light of the world
 - There is no other light of the world
 - Everything outside of Jesus is absence of the light of the world
 - Everything outside of Jesus is darkness

If you follow me...

- Jesus is telling the people there is a clear distinction between those who follow Him and those who simply show up to hear Him speak or to see Him at work

If you follow me...

- Jesus is telling the people there is a clear distinction between those who follow Him and those who simply show up to hear Him speak or to see Him at work
- The light of the world is available to those who follow Jesus

...you won't have to walk in darkness...

- There is a very clear choice here

...you won't have to walk in darkness...

- There is a very clear choice here
- Follow Jesus and walk in light

...you won't have to walk in darkness...

- There is a very clear choice here
- Follow Jesus and walk in light
- Don't follow Jesus and you walk in darkness

...because you will have the light that leads to life.

- Connection again between statements of who Jesus is and life

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- Logically, if light leads to life, then what does darkness lead to?

...because you will have the light that leads to life.

- Connection again between statements of who Jesus is and life
- Logically, if light leads to life, then what does darkness lead to?
- Clarification - Jesus is speaking of spiritual eternal life as well as physical life

Darkness is...

- Absence of light

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- Not the other way around
 - Light is light, not absence of darkness

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- Darkness is absence of Jesus

Darkness is...

- Absence of light
- Not the other way around
 - Light is light, not absence of darkness
- Darkness is absence of Jesus
- Darkness is not following Jesus
 - Choices not to follow Jesus result in our letting the light move on and our being left in the darkness

Darkness is...

- Not following Jesus
 - In big and small things
 - In applying His word to situations

Darkness is...

- Not following Jesus
 - In big and small things
 - In applying His word to situations
- If Jesus isn't leading there, why would we want to go there?
 - The moment we put whatever reason ahead of following Jesus, we are choosing darkness over light

What if we are already in darkness?

- What drives the darkness away?
 - The presence of light

What if we are already in darkness?

- What drives the darkness away?
 - The presence of light
- What drives spiritual darkness away?
 - The Presence of Light

What if we are already in darkness?

- What drives the darkness away?
 - The presence of light
- What drives spiritual darkness away?
 - The Presence of Light
- If Jesus walks into darkness, it either changes into light or it runs away to avoid that change
 - But we have to keep following the Light to know where we go and to avoid the darkness

Imagine life...

- With no light

Imagine life...

- With no light
- Spiritual blindness

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- Cannot see what those who are walking in the light can see

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- Light exists when we follow Jesus
 - It's not enough to just recognize Him

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- Light exists when we follow Jesus
 - It's not enough to just recognize Him
 - It's not enough to know who He is
 - It's not enough to admire Him or even to love Him

Winston Churchill

"If you are going through hell,
keep going."

Follow Jesus

- Do whatever is necessary to follow

Follow Jesus

- Do whatever is necessary to follow
- Leave whatever must stay behind

Follow Jesus

- Do whatever is necessary to follow
- Leave whatever must stay behind
- Stay close to stay in the light

Follow Jesus

- Do whatever is necessary to follow
- Leave whatever must stay behind
- Stay close to stay in the light
- Don't get distracted or discouraged

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- Stay close to stay in the light
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