**7 I AM Statements of Jesus**

**I AM the Light of the World**

**John 8:12-30**

**Recap:**

* **I AM The Bread of Life**
  + **The Meaning of “I AM the Bread of Life**
  + **Jesus’ Offer**
  + **Application**

**Introduction:**

* **Why is light essential to life? (Natural Light and It is Symbolism)**
  + **Light is a primary tool for perceiving the world and interacting with it for many organisms.**
  + **Light from the Sun warms the Earth, drives global weather patterns and initiates the life sustaining process of photosynthesis (plants, algae, and some bacteria convert light energy from the sun into chemical energy stored in glucose (a type of sugar).**
* **John 8:12**

**Context:**

* **Did you know Chapters 6-8 of John are fulfillment of the OT?**
  + **Jesus Feeds 5 thousand and proclaims to be The Bread of Life (Ch. 6)/OT Israel is Provided Manna (Exodus 16)**
  + **Jesus Claims to be the Living Water (Ch. 7)/Israel is provided water in the desert (Exodus 17:6 and Numbers 20:11)**
  + **Jesus is The Light of the World (Ch 8)/God provided light to the Israelites (Pillar Cloud by day and Pillar of Fire by Night) (Exodus 13:21)**
* **The placement of what Jesus said in John happens right after what is called the Feast of Booths/Tabernacles. The Jewish People call it the Sukkot. A time when lights symbolized God’s guidance in the wilderness.**
* **The Woman caught in adultery. (Jesus showed her Grace and Mercy before he showed her how to live right). People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.**

**I. What Does It Mean that Jesus Is the Light of the World?**

1. **Jesus Illuminates the Truth.**
   1. **He reveals God’s nature and will.**
   2. **John 1:4-5, 14: In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it…And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**
   3. **He exposes sin and offers redemption.**
   4. **Ephesians 5:13: But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible.**
   5. **John 3:19-21**
2. **Jesus Guides Us Through Darkness.**
   1. **As the pillar of fire led Israel, Christ leads us.**
   2. **Psalm 119:105: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**
   3. **He provides clarity and purpose in life’s confusion.**
   4. **The Darkness of this world will drain the life from you, but the Light of Christ give life to you for which are you living?**
   5. **He is not calling part-time disciples to shine part-time. He is calling full-time disciples to shine full-time.**
   6. **John 16:33: I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.**
3. **Jesus Brings Life and Hope**
   1. **Light sustains life; Jesus offers eternal life.**
   2. **John 10:10: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**
   3. **His light overcomes the darkness of despair and death.**
   4. **John 12:46: I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.**

**II. How Should We Respond to the Light?**

1. **Follow Him (“Whoever follows me...”)**
   1. **Commit to discipleship and live in obedience.**
   2. **Luke 9:23: And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.**
2. **Reflect His Light.**
   1. **Shine His light through love, service and sharing the Gospel.**
   2. **Matthew 5:14: You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.**
3. **Walk in the Light**
   1. **Avoid the deeds of darkness.**
   2. **1 John 1:5-7: This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.**
   3. **Live as Children of Light.**
   4. **Ephesians 5:8-10: for at one time you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.**

**Conclusion:**

* **Illustration: Talk about the residents who were in darkness with addictions and found light in Jesus**
* **Step out of the Darkness and into the Light of Christ**
* **John 12:36: While you have the light, believe in the light that you may become sons of light.**