



SERIES BIG IDEA:

Jesus is God; therefore, He is Lord.

The Feast of Tabernacles (Feast of Booths or Ingathering) was a Hebrew tradition God commanded Moses to have Israel observe to remind Israel of His delivering them from Egypt. (Exodus 23:14-16)

The Feast of Tabernacles included two reminders:

- A ceremony of drawing water from the Pool of Siloam to remember how God provided Israel water from the rock in Horeb (Exodus 17:6).
- Each evening, there was a ceremonial lighting of lamps to remember the pillar of fire that protected Israel in the darkness (Exodus 13:21).

³⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. ⁴⁰ On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet." ⁴¹ Others said, "He is the Messiah." Still others asked, "How can the Messiah come from Galilee?" ⁴² Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" ⁴³ Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

John 7:37-44 (NIV)

- **Jesus used the metaphor of living water to reveal that He is the source of life.**
- **To believe in Jesus is to trust that He is the source of life.**

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 (NIV)

Jesus' claim to be the light of the world is His claim to be the source of life and the only protection from evil.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

John 1:1-4 (NIV)

- **Jesus is the reason for life and the source of light and life for all creation.**
- **Jesus is the source of light who leads us to follow His way of life.**
- **The Jesus way of life is the way to life.**
- **Following Jesus is the only way to navigate the darkness.**

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:5 (NIV)

I have nothing to fear when I am trusting in Jesus and following Him.

¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." ¹⁴ Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. ¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. ¹⁷ In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am one who



testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”¹⁹ Then they asked him, “Where is your father?”
“You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.”
John 8:13-19 (NIV)

When I know Jesus, I know God. When I trust in and follow Jesus, I have life.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

Jesus is the light for all people to know God and have life.

- Following Jesus and His truth in scripture illuminates our next step on the dark path of life. (Psalm 119:105)
- Following Jesus and His truth in scripture leads us away from temptation. (Psalm 119:11)
- Those who follow Jesus reflect His light to a dark world who needs life. (Matthew 5:14)



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Jesus leveraged the most popular and celebrated festival, the Feast of Tabernacles, to announce another one of His “I Am” statements. Around the glow of torches, Jesus shares that He is “The Light of the World.”

Light is the source of our life on earth and Jesus is the source of all life created. When Jesus made this claim, He was claiming He was the reason for all life and the only way to have life.

The opposite of light is darkness. Jesus made a promise that whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness. When we try to walk in darkness, we stumble, we fall, we stub our toe, or step on that lego. Jesus makes a promise that to follow Him we will not walk in darkness but have life.

To follow Jesus is to experience living life in the light and experiencing God’s kingdom life. What is your plan to follow Jesus so you can avoid the darkness and walk in His light to experience His life for you?

TALK IT OVER:

What’s the worst injury you’ve suffered from walking in the darkness? Or, when you were a child, what were you afraid of when you were in the dark?

Does Jesus claim to be the source of life shock you or reassure you? Can you tell us more?

When you read John 8:12, what aspects of Jesus being the “light of the world” are meaningful to you?

Which one of these three verses do you think the Holy Spirit is wanting you to memorize and embrace so you can follow Jesus as the Light of Life?
(Psalm 119:11; Psalm 119:105; or Mathew 5:14)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

- Day 1: John 4:1-14
- Day 2: John 3:16-19-21
- Day 3: John 14:6; Acts 3:13-15
- Day 4: 1 John 1:1-7
- Day 5: John 5:16-24
- Day 6: 1 John 5:18-20