

Lent 2024 – I AM: Light of the World
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Reflection & Discussion Questions

The I AM statements are the self portrait of Jesus

When we understand the true picture of Jesus, it changes everything about us.

*Are there ways you are looking to know the true picture of Jesus more deeply this Lenten season?

Jesus declares, “I am the light of the world”

Read and discuss John 8:12-19(NIV)

¹² 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.”

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.”

*What does this passage say about the picture Jesus paints of himself?

*How does the context of this statement coming during the Festival of Tabernacles lend understanding to what Jesus is saying?

*Can you identify with the Pharisee’s reaction? Does Jesus’ response to the Pharisees make you think about the way you know Jesus and the Father?

Jesus didn’t come to GIVE light; he came to BE light

Those who believe in him have been rescued from darkness.

*The image of light is multi-faceted. What does having ‘the light of life’ mean for us? What could it mean in the here and now?

*How has he rescued you from the darkness?

The correct painting of Jesus will show him illuminating our path and flooding it with light

It reveals, most significantly, a person to follow.

*What does this illumination look like on your path lately?

*How are you connecting to him as the source of light? How are we prone to return to darkness?

*How is the Holy Spirit inviting you to lean into the truth that Jesus is the light of the world? Where is he asking you to follow him?