**I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW**

**John 8:12**

* *“Jesus spoke to them again: ‘I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.’”* (John 8:12)
* *“In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world..”* (John 1:4)
* **Jesus IS the FULFILLMENT of what the Jews are celebrating during the Feast of Tabernacles.**

**JESUS IS NOT JUST THE SON OF GOD…HE IS GOD**

* *“Jesus spoke to them again: ‘I am the light of the world…’”* (John 8:12a)
* **Jesus is not simply *a light* in our world, He is *the Light* of the world.**
* *“It is not enough for you to be my servant raising up the tribes of Jacob and restoring the protected ones of Israel. I will also make you a light for the nations, to be my salvation to the ends of the earth.”* (Isaiah 49:6)
* *“The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom should I fear?”* (Psalm 27:1)
* **When Christ was born he was fully God and fully man who came as the Messiah, the Saviour of all who would call on His name.**

**APART FROM KNOWING JESUS WE CAN NEVER MAKE SENSE OF THIS LIFE**

* *“Jesus spoke to them again: ‘I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.’” (John 8:12)*
* **The reason there is so much confusion is our world is due to the millions of people walking in darkness without the illuminating and life-giving light of Jesus.**
* *“He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. 14 In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”* (Colossians 1:13-14)
* **Without Jesus, the light of the world, you will never be able to make sense of humanity, of suffering, of sexuality, of relationships, of disappointments, of success, or of anything else in this world.**

**FOLLOWING JESUS ENABLES US TO SEE CLEARLY ON OUR JOURNEY TO OUR ETERNAL INHERITANCE**

* *“Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.”* (John 8:12b)
* **Jesus not only helps us see clearly to understand this world we live in, but He enables us to see clearly that which is to come in the afterlife.**
* *“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light, and there is absolutely no darkness in him. 6 If we say, ‘We have fellowship with him,’ and yet we walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. 7 If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”* (1 John 1:5-7)
* **Because Jesus came into our world, lived a sinless life, shed his blood on the cross, was buried in a borrowed tomb, and rose from the dead on the third day, we now have access to forgiveness for our sins and everlasting life in heaven.**

**Connect Group Discussion**

**Understanding:**

* What does John 8:12 teach us about God/Jesus?
* What is the Feast of Tabernacles? (See Nehemiah 8:13-18)
* What is a key message John 8:12? There may be more than one.

**Digging Deeper:**

* Why do so many people reject Jesus as being God? How do we know Jesus is referring to Himself as the Messiah in John 8:12?
* What does it mean to “walk in darkness” in our world?
* How does Jesus “light” up our world? How does He “light up” your life personally? (Give specific examples for both questions.)
* What does Jesus mean when He says you will “have the light of life” in John 8:12?
* What are some ways you can help others “see the Light” this Christmas?

**Loving Outward:**

* Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
* Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
* Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?