



***Believe it
or Not***

John 7-12



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Today's Worship Service

PRAISE

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Mike Matheson
Call To Worship Matthew Lautz

(Candidate for Director of Worship Arts position)

["This is Amazing Grace"](#) Farro, Riddle, Wickham

RENEWAL

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)

Prayer of Confession [John 1:1-5](#) (Adapted from "Prone to Wander")

Assurance of Grace [Colossians 1:12-14](#)

["King of Kings"](#) Ingram, Ligertwood

["This I Believe"](#) Fielding, Crocker

Local Partnership Video: Safe Families for Children

PROCLAMATION

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)

Reading of the Word [John 8:12-30](#) Amos Beernink

Reader: *This is God's Word for us today.*

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Preaching of the Word Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)

["How Deep the Father's Love For Us"](#) Townend

["Center My Life"](#) Land, Ivey

Benediction Pastor Mike Matheson

John 8:12-30

I Am the Light of the World

[12] Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [13] So the Pharisees said to him, "You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true." [14] Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. [15] You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. [16] Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. [17] In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. [18] I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me." [19] They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." [20] These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

[21] So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." [22] So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come?'" [23] He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. [24] I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." [25] So they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. [26] I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." [27] They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. [28] So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. [29] And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." [30] As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

Sermon Notes

Preacher: Pastor Mike Matheson

Sermon: The True Light

Scripture: [John 8:12-30](#)

Date: September 27, 2020

For more information on this topic look into:

John: A 12-Week Study. (Knowing the Bible series) by Justin Buzzard

John 1-12 For You (God's Word for You) by Josh Moody

ESV Scripture Journal

September 27 - October 3 Memory Verse

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12

Sermon Review Discussion Questions

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

“I am the light of the world,” Jesus proclaims in [John 8:12](#). What significance does this have? If he is the true light, what is the right response from us? When we ponder his statement through God’s bringing light into the world at creation to the promise of a coming Messiah to bring his people out of darkness, one would think they wanted the true light to come. And yet, once he arrived, many weren’t ready to receive him. Instead of stepping into the light, they remained in the dark. How will we respond? Will we choose light or darkness?

Discussion Questions

1. What meanings and values are generally ascribed to light and darkness? What happens to the dark when light shines into it? How has John’s Gospel previously discussed the theme of light and darkness? In what sense are Christians called to be sources of light?
2. What is the significance of Jesus’ statement in 8:12? How does the timing and location of his statement add meaning to it? Where else in Scripture do we see God bringing light into the world? How have you witnessed Jesus bring light into your own life?
3. How do the Pharisees respond to Jesus’ statement (8:13)? On what grounds do they reject his declaration? What other claims does Jesus make that might be hard for some to accept (14-30) How does your response to Jesus reveal what you believe about him?
4. From where does Jesus state he has come (8:21-23)? How does he distinguish his origin from the Pharisees? How does receiving Jesus as the Christ set you apart from being of this world? How might your life better reflect that it belongs to him and his kingdom?
5. What does Jesus say will happen to those who reject him (8:24)? Why do you think many struggle to receive Jesus as the One who brings the “light of life”? What attracts many to remain in darkness? How can we allow Jesus to bring more light into our lives?

Announcements

[Sunday Morning Childcare](#)

Childcare is available for children 12-48 months of age. You must RSVP each week online as there is limited space in the classrooms.



[Women's Gathering](#)

Saturday, October 3, 9-11am
Topic: Testing Your Faith
Women's Gatherings are a great way to get to know more women at Grace! Please RSVP to help us know how many to expect:
graceinracine.com/womens-ministry



[Men's Gathering](#)

October 10, 8-9:30am
Topic: Testing Your Faith
Men's Gatherings are a time for men to connect, be taught from God's word and spur one another in our faith. All men are welcome!



[Child Dedication](#)

October 25, during service
Required class:
October 11, 11:15 am
Child dedication ceremony is not only an opportunity to celebrate as a church, but is also a time for parents to publicly commit to God's plan. Learn more at graceinracine.com.



[Monthly Missionary Prayer Meeting](#)

Friday, October 2 at 7:00pm
Join in via Zoom to pray for Grace missionaries. This month we will be connecting with the Kirby's in Montana.

To join in, contact Joe Kobriger
JoeKobriger@worldteam.org

[Help Teen Parents](#)

Parent Life Group, a Grace Local Partnership, is an outreach to teen parents that provides gospel-centered loving support, life-skill training, items for their babies, and meals during group.



Immediate needs:

- Weekly group meals - sign up using QR code
- Diapers sizes: newborn, 1, 2, 4, 5
- Boy/girl clothes sizes: 12-18 month

Contact Dawn Wade for more info:
dawn.e0707@yahoo.com

Drop items off at designated table at Grace on: October 4 & 11.

Welcome to Grace Church!

It's great to have you here today and we'd love to connect with you! Visit graceinracine.com/connectcard or scan this QR code to let us know you visited, ask questions, submit prayer requests, or indicate an area of Grace Church that is of interest to you.



Friendly Reminders:

- Those 5 years of age and up must wear a face-covering when attending Sunday worship services.
- Please maintain social distancing.
- After service, please exit the building and use outside spaces to visit while still maintaining distancing.
- If sharing a pew with another family please ensure 6 ft between your two families.
- Offering boxes are located outside the main sanctuary doors and in the balcony.
- The seating outside the sanctuary window is reserved for parents with infants and young children.
- The church staff is available by appointment, phone, and video conferencing during the week.
- Thanks for your understanding and patience!

Can We Pray For You?

If you have a prayer need, please email us at info@graceinracine.com. We'd love to be praying for you.

Due to the size of our church, we're not always aware of every need. Please help us by sending life updates to care@graceinracine.com. We would love to encourage you and pray.

Our heartfelt love, sympathy, and prayer to Paul & Trish Herzfeld on the passing of Paul's mother, Shirley Herzfeld.

Last Week: Sanctuary Attendance: 141 // Livestream Attendance: 249 households

Giving: Last Week: \$30,200 YTD: \$1,121,006 +/- Budget: \$-7,805

Here are some Key Words to Listen for in the sermon. Make a mark every time you hear these words:

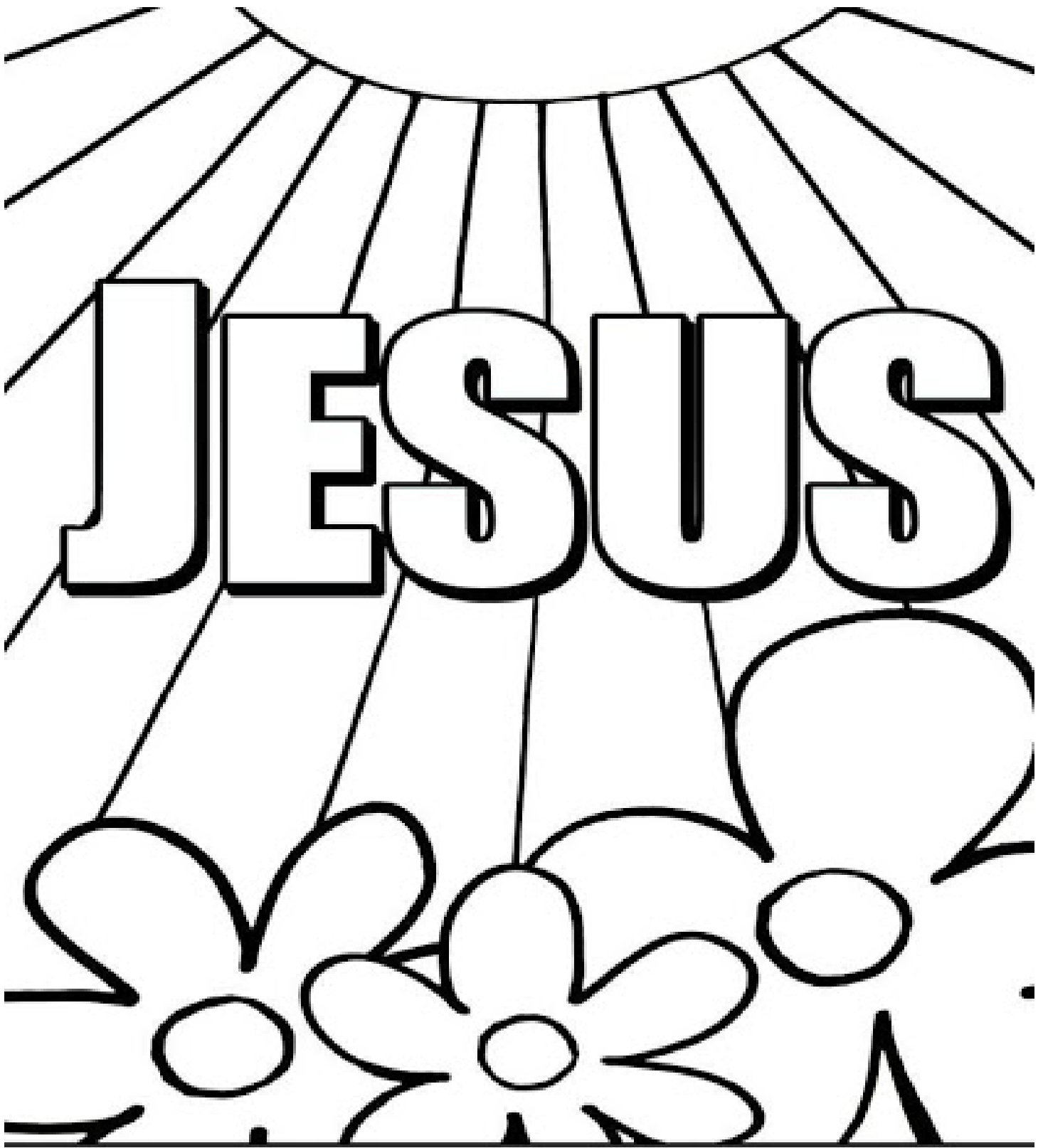
LIFE

BELIEVE

LIGHT

WORLD

DARKNESS



The Light of the World

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW AND THINK ABOUT HOW EACH TIES IN WITH TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE:

**ALONE
BELIEVE
COME**

**DARKNESS
FATHER
GOING**

**KNOW
LIFE
LIGHT**

**PHARISEES
TESTIMONY
TRUE**

**WALK
WITNESS
WORLD**

V V J L S E E W O P Y P S J B W Z Q L P Q F B S F S Y K Z Y
 C P T B P F R T L Q I X T Y O H V V B U Q V S B A E C I I D
 I G T J I P Z C X I D Z J S N V S E R B U E B Z T E N P D J
 R L Y L H Y P W T G W S H T J O R G J W N G M X H S Q B T D
 D G P T F R O B O U W T C P N Q M F N K J F R S E I C F K Y
 R F K S W D I F Z L T D L R O W K I R I L E O I R R U A Q G
 V T W P D D G W N T H A J F X L P A T O O E Y H Z A X D Q I
 R R N Z J T B Y P T H C A A A P D T R S Y G G U U H C U O P
 Q U K B H C L T X O O K W A L K J G T J E X J D A P V I N K
 E E U O H D N V F E B P E W U K B Q J C U T B G E N D N G Z
 Y X V F P G I P G Y G Z S W X F W I Z R B Q Q P N E I T N F
 J N V R Y B N Q Y P Q L M P G A R I L C Q E X S B S Y E J Z
 P Z R X P X L H P S U D O K I Y G I J L V F L Y S K R E O P
 Z T J T F L M A V M U B Z J K X G S U O B M D I Y Y B T Z M
 T W P D L L I T H R H H T H S H G I M T Q C U G E B G L E C
 Y V U E I H P B X F F H B D T E N O A I E F S Q G V E I K I
 F U T N E M D B S O B Y D C E N X R Q C L P P G R A E E I J
 H H D R Q V F Q K W J S S J Q O Q B F Q O H I D F B X E D H
 E K I E I T C Q D E R Q G Z E L Q Q M Q P M J A E P J Y W N
 V A I H P F W Q S J X I R O J A G K H R Y T E I T K F J K E
 Y L V L W A M Q D W D G K X X F U G F K A I P K P Y D E R B
 A Z A Y V I W G J R R N F N G D R A R M Y N L R C S D F Z X
 H T N D H M G N Q J O H O F W I B V Y B Y O E G C I K G F W
 K P H J R Q X Q Z W V F I G F P T P I D U R Z W U F S S H Y
 G C I O H N Q D L R N Q P M M V J S Q F W M U O T K M H M S
 J K U R Y Q O I I O R M N J M V Q P B M T H F Q P E L M V M
 B N I L W X Y T X E G P J H V I X R P H H W L Z Y A B G B Z
 E Y Z N Z S N Q P C W L D X M Y U Q M K D O D S Y M N A W L
 W I T N E S S R U U X V C B W U U F V Y N V C B K Q M R L A
 Z O Y N Y M A W J H W Y L B R K N S I C B S V B X F N R A C

**THIS WEEK'S
MEMORY VERSE IS
JOHN 8:12!**

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’”
 John 8:12

Work on committing this verse to memory and thinking about it this week.

This week's verse is taken directly from the passage we studied together this morning. In your own words explain what Jesus is telling the Pharisees and us when He claims to be the light of the world? Why is this good news for sinners like you and me?



REVIEW TODAY'S MESSAGE BY DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS AS A FAMILY:

1. Read John 8:12-30 together as a family. Retell the events of this passage in your own words. Where is this taking place? What is Jesus saying about Himself? How are people responding to what Jesus is saying?
2. In this passage, Jesus claims that everything He says is true. How do we know that Jesus' words are trustworthy? What else do you know about Jesus that would help you to know His words are true? Where can we find more of Jesus' true words?
3. In this passage Jesus lists several opposites (i.e. light and dark) to show how He is different than the men who are questioning Him. Make a list of these opposites then look at each pair. Are you someone who is in the light or the dark? Explain your answer. Continue identifying with one of each pair on the list. In what areas of your life do you find yourself opposed (or opposite) of Jesus? What steps can you take this week to start changing that difference?
4. In verse 29, Jesus says that He always does what pleases the Father? Do you always do what pleases God? Why not? What are some reoccurring sins in your life that show that you often seek to please yourself instead of God? Remembering what Jesus said in 7:37-38, how does doing what pleases God ultimately please us?

