



I Am The Light Of The World | Shawn Johnson | 03.09.2024
Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

Share a praise you have from last week and a prayer you have for this week.

Can your group list all 7 "I am" statements in the Gospel of John without looking?

What are your own top 3 "I am" statements?

GROW

Welcome to week two of our "*I Am*" series. As we continue exploring the seven "I am" statements made by Jesus, our aim is to discover the characteristics and attributes of God as we look at the life of Jesus. As we gain a better understanding of God's heart for our lives, our hope is to become more equipped and empowered to live with purpose and "be" the light of the world for others.

This week, Pastor Shawn focused on the second "I am" statement in the Gospel of John: *I Am The Light Of The World* (John 8:12). This powerful statement by Jesus serves as a reminder of his role in our life as His light exposes hidden truths, brings clarity to confusion, provides hope through dark seasons, and offers wisdom and guidance at every turn.

How did Shawn's message speak to you? What did it reveal?

Read John 12:44-46 NIV, 1 Peter 2:9 NIV

What are your takeaways from the passages above?

How does the concept of being "God's special possession" influence the way you view yourself and your worth through your own eyes? How about through His eyes?

How have you seen Jesus show up in your life as "the light of the world?" How have those experiences shaped you?

M O V E

Many of us have experienced wonderful seasons filled with light, peace, and joy as well as difficult seasons that feel dark, uncertain, and isolating. Drawing from his own experiences, Shawn admits that these dark times often coincide with drifting away from our daily pursuit of Jesus, in which feelings of anxiety, frustration, and discouragement often come flooding in. So, what should we do during these challenging seasons? How do we find our way back?

One suggestion Shawn offers is to remember our calling to live with purpose. Living purposefully and with direction focuses our attention and energy on moving forward, regardless of the obstacles we face which guides us into seasons of light and renewal.

A consistent theme in the gospel is Jesus' call for us to give others what we need most for ourselves ("It is more blessed to give than to receive" - Acts 20:35). We're invited not only to seek Jesus as the light of the world but also to embody that light ourselves. By making ourselves available for God's light and love to shine through us for others, He moves both in and through us, bringing healing, hope, and joy to everyone involved.

Reflecting on Shawn's experiences, have you ever found yourself drifting away from your pursuit of Jesus during challenging seasons? How did you recognize this shift, and what were the signs or feelings that accompanied that shift?

How do you define living with purpose in your own life? What practices or habits help you stay focused on your purpose, even in challenging seasons?

Read Isaiah 42:6-9 NIV, Matthew 5:16 NIV, 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11 NIV

How does the idea of Jesus being the light of the world challenge you to live out your faith more intentionally in your daily life?

What similarities do you notice in the passages above regarding the theme of our calling to be Image-bearers of Christ and the light of the world?

What are some specific ways you can let God's light and love shine through you this week to bring healing, hope, and joy to others?

P R A Y

Heavenly Father, thank you for the opportunity to come together and share our joys, sorrows, and prayers with one another. In times of darkness and uncertainty, remind us of the light you bring into our lives through Jesus. Help us stay grounded in our pursuit of You, and empower us to live out our faith boldly, drawing others in and pointing them to You as your light shines through us this week.

R E S O U R C E S

Join us each morning as we go through our *I AM* Devotional (click here), or visit <https://my.redrockchurch.com/iamdevo/landing>