



## Gospel Community Notes & Questions

**Title:** Walk in the Light

**Text:** John 12:35-50

**Theme:** Walk in the light of Jesus before it's too late.

**Teaching Notes:** In Jesus' last public address to the crowds, he claims to have an intimate, one-of-a-kind relationship with the Father and he invites people to believe in the light and walk in the light. Most of the people continue on the same path and are actually hardened in their unbelief, while others wrestle with just how closely they want to be associated with Jesus.

### Outline:

#### 1. The claims of Jesus.

- a. I was sent by the Father. (v. 44).
- b. I revealed the Father. (v. 45)
- c. I spoke the words of the Father. (vv. 49-50)
- d. I did the signs of the Father. (v. 37)
- e. I illuminated the way to the father. (v. 46)

#### 2. The call of Jesus.

- a. Believe in the light. (v. 36)
- b. Walk in the light. (v. 35)

#### 3. The crisis of Jesus.

- a. Many will remain in unbelief. (vv. 37-40, 47-48)
- b. Some will secretly believe. (vv. 42-43)
- c. Some will believe and follow. (vv. 44-46)



**Questions to explore individually and with your group:**

1. If Jesus is the Light, then what is the darkness? (There isn't one right answer, there are many. List as many as you can think of!)
2. Referencing the list under question #1, what are some ways you've grown accustomed to the darkness? What are some ways your "eyes" and heart have acclimated to the darkness?
3. Knowing this is the last time Jesus spoke to a public audience, what stands out to you?
4. "Your functional savior is either part of the darkness or he's the Light." What are some examples of a "functional savior" (things people look to for significance, safety, satisfaction, identity, etc.) that are just part of the same darkness? Choose one and explain why that's a problem.
5. What do you think Jesus meant when he said he had not come to judge those who reject him, but his words would indeed judge them on the last day?
6. What are some of the reasons we keep our faith to ourselves? What are we afraid of losing? What are we hoping to gain by our silence?
7. What are the two reasons many believers in Jesus' day wouldn't publicly admit they believed in him? See verses 42-43. Therefore, what are you missing out on when you're ashamed to identify with Jesus?
8. What does it mean to "walk in the light"? See how many practical/actionable ways you can think of to do that.
9. If you've ever been closer to the Light than you are right now, why is that? What are some things that disrupt or discourage you from walking in the light?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this Scripture?

**Prayer Prompts:**

1. Praise Jesus for coming to make the Father known – in word, in deed, in mission, and in his very essence.
2. Acknowledge ways that you're either running from or simply not following the light. Acknowledge reasons you're hesitant to be vocal about your faith.
3. Ask Jesus to show you the Father in all his glory. Trust him to lead you by his light, even if that leadership looks like simple, step-by-step obedience.