

**KNOWING REAL LOVE****Jesus the Light of the World****John 7:37—8:20**

*“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”* John 8:12b

1. Read John 7:37–53. What does Jesus say about himself on “the last and greatest day of the Feast” (vs. 37)?
2. What does Jesus mean by “streams of living water” (vs. 38)? Remembering that Jesus was speaking to people who lived in a desert, what would his words have meant to them? (Also see Ezekiel 47:1–12).
3. What do you thirst for? Have you ever given your thirst over to Jesus?
4. Describe the different reactions those around Jesus had to his words. (vss. 40–52) Why do you think there were so many different reactions? In your own life, what different responses have you had toward Jesus?
5. Read John 8:1–11. Why did the Pharisees bring the woman to Jesus? What does this action reveal about their heart towards the woman? Towards Jesus? Towards God the Father? (see John 8:19)
6. How does Jesus escape their “trap” (8:6)? What was his attitude towards the woman?
7. What does Jesus tell the woman to do? Imagine Jesus saying the words in 8:11 to you. What would he be telling you to leave behind? Share with your group if you feel comfortable.

8. Read John 8:12–20 along with John 1:4–5. What image does Jesus use to describe himself? How do John’s words from the beginning of this book come alive in this section?
  
9. What promises from the Old Testament would Jesus’ words bring to mind? (Psalm 27:1; Isaiah 42:6; 60:19–20) What claim is Jesus making about himself? (Notice who the Old Testament promises are about.)
  
10. List some ways that physical light affects you every day. Think about some differences between living in darkness and living in light. Describe some effects of spiritual light.