

SERMON OUTLINE John 1:6-13

Authentication, Rejection, and Sovereign Grace

THE WITNESS (6-8)

A Test for Authenticity

Some Key Takeaways

THE TRUE LIGHT (9)

NO ONE RECOGNIZED THE LIGHT (9-11)

HOW TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD (12-13)

Receive and Believe

Be Born

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

When the True Light came and revealed himself to everyone, the world did not recognize Him. He stood there in front of them, further confirming His nature and purpose through teaching, signs and wonders, but the world still did not know Him. John tells us that this is because before we can recognize the light, we must be born (again) of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Can you think of a time recently when you believed one thing, but someone shared some evidence with you that changed your mind? What evidence did they share? Why did you find it so compelling?
3. On the other end of the spectrum, can you think of a time that you believed one thing and no one could convince you otherwise, no matter how much evidence they brought? Why couldn't they convince you?
4. What's the fastest mile you've ever run? Can you prove it?
5. Had you ever made the connection between how hard it would be to convince someone standing in front of the sun that it was real and bright with how hard it is to convince someone standing on the world Jesus made that Jesus is real and bright?
6. How do you guard yourself and your friends from believing false claims about God?
7. What kind of witness for the light of Jesus would your neighbors say you are?
8. If Jesus is the "true light," and the very Son of God, why do some people believe in Jesus and others don't?
9. What do you think it means to be "born of God" or "born again"?
10. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God in John?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. Come to the parents' time in G2g in order to learn about some of the "evidence" for God's existence.
12. Spend some time trying to convince an unbelieving friend to receive and believe in Jesus.
13. Seek the Spirit's help to identify and repent of some aspect of your witness for Jesus that is inconsistent with Jesus.
14. Try to artistically capture the "light" of the glory of God in this passage.
15. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

PRAYER POINTS

16. Adoration. Praise God for being the True Light. Praise God for being the source of all life and new life.
17. Confession. Confess any ways in which you know you are still blinded to the light or love the darkness. Confess any ways that you have been indifferent to the salvation of another. Confess any ways that you've made yourself the center of things.
18. Thanksgiving. Thank God for doing for us what we could not do for ourselves. Thank God for granting you the right to become His child; to receive and believe in the name of Jesus. Thank God for being the light of all men.
19. Supplication. Ask God to help us all recognize and reject false claims about God. Ask God to help Grace Church to be a true city on a hill and a lamp on a lampstand. Ask God to bind up the blind and crippled and hurting.