



PARTICIPANT GUIDE – September 15

PRIMARY PASSAGE

John 8:2-20 ² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery.” ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ “No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.” ¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” ¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.” ¹⁴ Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. ¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. ¹⁷ In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.” ¹⁹ Then they asked him, “Where is your father?” “You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” ²⁰ He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1) What is going on? Describe what is happening in the passage leading up to Jesus’ “I AM” statement.**
- 2) What does Jesus claim? (Verse 12) What does this metaphor say about who Jesus is?**
- 3) What does this mean for us?**

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Jesus' statement, "I am the Light of the World," tells us that Jesus can/will chase out the darkness in us and give us life. The life we long to find in the things of the world and from others can only be found in Him. Take a moment in think about what that means for you personally in your life.

- **What areas of darkness in your life do you need to let The Light illuminate and chase out?**
- **How can you begin to live this week as one who is accepted by Jesus no matter your past and truly begin to live in His light?**
- **How can you begin to shine the Light of Jesus in your everyday life? Who in your life would benefit from you doing this?**