Harvest Bible Chapel Small Group Questions April 18, 2010

Just Jesus: Everything You Need...I AM I am the Light of the World John 8:12

- 1. Have you ever been afraid of the dark? Did you sleep with a night light when you were a kid? Why? What is it about darkness that increases fear?
- 2. Darkness and light have been in conflict with one another throughout history. List areas in our culture where the darkness is the thickest. How would those areas change if the light of life were to shine on it?
- 3. In what ways have you personally experienced darkness in the following ways:
 - Darkness of difficulty (from the outside)
 - Darkness of despair (from the inside)
 - Darkness of disobedience
 - Darkness of disaster
 - Darkness of disease
 - Darkness of death
- 4. How does Jesus' claim to be the light of world affect the perspective to the Christian living in a dark world?
- 5. How does an understanding of the Feast of Tabernacles and Jesus' claim to be the light of the world help you appreciate the perfect unity of the Bible's story? How does Jesus' claim to be the light of the world disrupt ceremonial religion? How are your prone to practice ceremonial religion?
- 6. Read 3:19-21. At some point we have all "loved the darkness" and "hated the light." What is does a love for darkness feel like? What does a hatred of the light feel like? Who loves darkness? Why do people do "wicked things?" Why do people not come to the light?
- 7. Read Ephesians 5:8-14. Describe your life when you "were darkness." What practical step do you need to take this week to "walk as children of light?" Are you taking part in the "unfruitful works of darkness?" What are you going to do about it? How do "children of the light" expose "works of darkness?"
- 8. Read Revelation 21:23-25 and 22:5. How do the truths in these verse encourage you as you live in this world of darkness.
- 9. Read Matthew 5:14-16. Are you shining brightly in a dark world? Has anyone recently told you to put out your light? If not, why not? Do you need courage to shine brightly?