

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS · GRADES 3–5

The Light of the World Rejected

The Gospel of John: Why Should I Believe? · Week 02 · September 20, 2026

LEADER SNAPSHOT

Big idea: The light came to everyone. Most people would not receive Him — but everyone who does is born into God’s family, and God is the one who does it.

Read together: John 1:6–13 (have one student read it aloud twice). Memory verse: John 1:12.

Time: 15–20 minutes. Slow down on verses 11 and 12 — that is where the whole passage turns.

WARM UP

1. If somebody hands you a present, what do you have to do before it’s really yours?

Take it. A gift you never open is still sitting on the table. Hold onto that — it comes back in verse 12.

SOMEONE CAME TO POINT

2. God sent John the Baptist ahead of Jesus. Verse 8 says straight out that John “was not the light.” Why was it important for him to say that out loud?

People were starting to make John the main thing. He kept moving the spotlight off himself and onto Jesus.

THE LIGHT CAME TO EVERYONE

3. Verse 9 says the true light gives light to everyone — so nobody can say, “I never had a chance.” Then verse 10 says the world didn’t know Him anyway. How do you not recognize the person who made you?

It wasn’t because God was hiding. Sin makes us bad at seeing what’s right in front of us.

MOST WOULD NOT LET HIM IN

4. Verse 11 says Jesus came to His own home and His own people wouldn’t take Him in. Who hurts more to be turned away by — a stranger or your own family?

BUT SOME DID

5. Verse 12 says everybody who received Jesus got the right to become a child of God. What’s the difference between knowing about somebody and letting them into your house?
6. Verse 13 names three things that CAN’T make you God’s child: your family, somebody else wanting it for you, and trying really hard. So what does?

Only God. It’s a second birth — you can’t do it, and you can’t undo it.

SO WHAT

7. Be honest — do you know about Jesus, or have you received Him?

THIS WEEK

Read John 1:6–13 every day — it takes two minutes. Every time you finish, answer one question: “Have I received Him, or do I only know about Him?” Memory verse: John 1:12.

Next week: Week 3 · The Word Became Flesh · John 1:14–18 · September 27, 2026