

# “Chain Reaction” Group Study

Season 3: Light in the Darkness, **Week 3**

Passage: John 8:37-59

Pastor Ryan Paulson

## ICEBREAKER:

1. Mornings set the tone for the entire day. What fuels a good start to your day? Coffee, tea, exercise, meditating on the Word, etc? Resist the urge to alter your answer... remember that God is with you in all of these! (Also, take this moment to share with your group a self-assessment of personal time spent reading God’s Word.)

As a way to get into the study, go back over the Sermon Outline from Sunday:

Your **spiritual source** determines your **quality of life**.

Your **spiritual source** is either from **God or the devil**.

- Assess your **actions**.
- Discern your **affections**.
- Gauge your **attentiveness**.

The **infinite I Am** is our **eternal hope**.



## Learning His Way

(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus that is found in the text.)

2. Read the entire passage: John 8:37-59
3. What is it that the Pharisees think is the source of their holiness before God? (John 8:37)
4. In verse 46, Jesus tells them the truth in simple terms, but they don’t believe him or understand. Why is this? (Hint: Jesus answers the question in verse 47.)

5. Have one person from the group read John 8:58 aloud. Where else in Scripture does God refer to Himself as I AM? What is the significance of this statement?



### **Forming His Heart**

(This is the part of the study where we work on our own hearts. “How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?”)

6. There is no neutral territory in the spiritual realm. Are there any warning signs that you might be missing that indicate that you might be headed down a wrong path in an area of your life. Take a minute to ask the Lord to reveal His way to you so that you might turn from this way (repent) and follow Him instead.
7. What sources of life are you entertaining that are a source of death rather than life? (Examples are far and wide and may include things like binging on Netflix, over-eating, busyness, intellectual knowledge, etc.)
8. “Church wasn’t designed to be an echo chamber, it’s supposed to be a refining fire.” ~ Ryan Paulson. What does this statement mean to you in the context of small groups?



### **Joining His Mission**

(This is the part of the study that we ask, “What would God want us to do because of this passage?”)

9. You join in God’s mission by living in this world fully empowered by the Spirit to do God’s will and bring Him glory. As you go about your week, be ready to fight back with the Truth of who you belong to as the enemy would distract you with lies. Share with the group some Scriptures that help you remember.