

Light of the World

A Christmas devotional talking about Jesus as the Light of the World. We often think of the Light of the World as a Christmas theme. It is mentioned in songs and carols. But what does Light of the World mean?

So gather your family on Christmas morning, Christmas eve, or whenever you would want to have a Christmas devotion together. Enjoy talking about God's Word together as a family.

Scriptures to read:

GENESIS 1:3 - 5

3 ¶ And God said, *Let there be light: and there was light.*

4 *And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.*

5 *And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.*

GENESIS 1:14 - 19

14 ¶ And God said, *Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:*

15 *And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.*

16 *And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.*

17 *And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,*

18 *And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.*

19 *And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.*

REVELATION 21: 22 - 25

22 *And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.*

23 *And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.*

24 *And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.*

25 *And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.*

Discussion

Overview: God created the light on the first day, but didn't create the sun, moon, and stars until the fourth day. So what was light then? Then we will show that JESUS was that light, and that He also proved it when He healed the blind man. Finally we will show that we are now the light of the world.

Ask: What did we read that God created on the first day? **Answer:** Light

Ask: What did God create on the fourth day? **Answer:** Sun, moon, and stars

Ask: If light was created on the first day, but the sun didn't happen until the fourth day, what was light? (This is a rhetorical question, but the answer would be God/Jesus)

Ask: We read about the New Jerusalem in the book of Revelations, what was the source of light in the new city? **Answer:** The Lamb

Say:

So then God himself was the light in the beginning of creation, and at the end in the new Jerusalem.

Let's think for a moment what we need light for? Discuss with your family these concepts.

- 1) Light "reveals" things. Think of the coffee table in the room. If there were no light, you couldn't see the coffee table, but the truth is, the coffee table is still there. Light plainly shows what truth is.

- 2) Light destroys darkness. There is no “power” that darkness has if light is in the room. Nothing can be easily hidden if light is there. (this can be applied to sin as well)

LUKE 2:25 - 32

25 ¶ And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32 **A light to lighten the Gentiles**, and the glory of thy people Israel.

JOHN 8:12

12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Jesus makes quite a statement here doesn't he? He declares that He is the Light of the World! Just like was prophesied to come. There are many prophetic scriptures that refer to a Light coming.

Ask: Why do you think the Pharisees in chapter 8 didn't want to believe that Jesus was the Light of the World? **Answers:** (may vary but should get to the idea that they didn't feel they needed any light, they didn't feel they were in darkness)

Ask: If Jesus is the Light of the World, if the pharisees don't accept Jesus, do they have Light? **Answer:** No

Say:

But yet the Pharisees can see because of the light of the sun, or candles.

So when we say Jesus is the Light of the World, we mean more than just he brings physical light. But we mean that Jesus is the Light that shows us truth. He shows us how to live true righteous lives.

In John chapter 8, the Pharisees dispute with Jesus because He proclaimed that He was the Light of the World.

In John chapter 9, in what is likely the next day, and certainly connected to the conversation in John 8 we read that Jesus heals the blind man:

JOHN 9:1 - 7

1 ¶ And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

Ask: Do you think it was a coincidence, after Jesus declared He was the Light of the World that he healed a blind man? He could have healed a leper, cripple, or some disease. **Answer:** No

Say: So Jesus PROVED it was more than just a statement. He proved He was the one who could come into someone's life who had been blind their ENTIRE life, and bring light.

Ask: Do you think that Jesus was showing the Pharisees that if he can heal a man's physical blindness that He can also heal spiritual blindness? **Answer:** Yes.

Say:

So this Christmas, let's *reflect* on what "Jesus is the Light of the World" means.

Speaking of reflect, let's read one more Scripture

MATTHEW 5:14 - 16

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Say:

Once you accept Jesus as the Light of the World, and receive a new birth, you have Jesus in you. If Jesus is the Light of the World, and then HIS LIFE is in You – then YOU become the Light of the World too. A light that can show people the way to truth, peace, love, and joy.

Quotation of Bro William Branham

57-1222 The Great Shining Light

90 What are we today then? We are stars. **Every borned again Christian is a testimony to the Lord Jesus Christ**, a star to reflect the power and holiness of the Lord Jesus: to reflect Him in His life, to perfect Him in His speech, to perfect Him in His healing power, to perfect Him in His resurrection, to **reflect Him in every way that He was reflected to us by God the Father**. We are stars.

Say:

So this Christmas, we can be like the blind man, we can accept Jesus as the Light of the World, and then we can be sent into the world to SHINE!

Other Scriptures for more advanced study: Daniel 2:22, Isaiah 9:1,2, Matt 4:14-16, John 1:4-9, 1 John 5:12, Acts 26:15-18, John 3:19, Col 1:12,13



JESUS
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WORLD®