Reflection Questions: How can I celebrate the Light of Christmas today? Where am I reflecting the Light into darkness this week? Are there areas of my life where I want to remain in darkness? Why? How can I grow as light and be more effective?

How can we pray for one another and our church this week?



LIGHT John 12:46 December 24, 2023

1. Darkness

Quotes to Ponder

Jesus is revealed as the One who knows God the Father and who makes Him known... Before Christ came into the world, the world was in darkness. The world did not know God. Christ came. His light shone before men. Then men had light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. James Montgomery Boice

Hail, holy light, offspring of Heaven first-born... God is light, and never but in unapproachable light dwelt from eternity, dwelt then in Thee bright effluence of bright essence increate.

John Milton

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night: Day-spring from on high, be near: Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by thee, Joyless is the day's return, Till thy mercy's beams I see; Till thy inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin, and grief, Fill me, Radiancy Divine, Scatter all my unbelief, More and more thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

> Jerry Bridges What better Christmas gift can we give to Jesus than to tell others about Him? Daniel Doriani

2. Light

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- 1. What in the text/sermon impacted you? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you? Comforted you?
- 2. Have you ever found yourself in the dark, needing a light to see by? Answer both literally and figuratively.
- 3. Read John 12:46. What is meant by darkness?

How has Jesus come as Light?

What does it mean when Jesus says, everyone who believes in Me...?

- 4. Is it significant that God's first recorded words are, *Let there be light* (*Genesis 1:3*)? Explain.
- 5. Read John 1:1-5. In what way is Jesus' life the Light of men?
- 6. Read *John 1:6-8.* John was a man sent from God. Why wasn't he *the light* as well?
- 7. Read John 1:9-13. What is the result of receiving Jesus?
- 8. Read *John 3:19-21*. Where do you see people loving darkness? Why do we naturally love darkness?
- 9. What does Jesus claim about Himself in John 8:12?

What two promises does Jesus make to those who follow Him?

10. Read Ephesians 5:6-21. What commands are given here?

When did you become Light in the Lord?

God says the light shining is actually what or whom (14)?

- Describe what walking in the light looks like according to *Ephesians* 5:9-21.
- 11. What is the evidence of a life filled with light or darkness (1 John 2:9-11)?
- 12. How does the Old Testament bear witness of Jesus being the Light of the World? Use Scripture.
- 13. Read *Matthew 5:14-16*. What does it mean that we *are the light of the world*?
 - How does it work that Jesus is the light of the world and we are also are *the light of the world*?
- What do the following verses teach about *light* and *darkness*? *Exodus* 13:21 — Isaiah 60:1-3 —

Psalm 27:1 —

Malachi 4:2 —

Psalm 36:7-9 —

Revelation 21:22-27 -