



*\*\*\*A few portions of Scripture in today's study have already been read in the past few weeks, but we will focus on the lights that surround the Christmas story.*

**The light shone around them**

**Luke 2:1-20**

What did Caesar Augustus decree (vs 1-2)?

How can you see the amazing timing of God with this declaration?

Where did each person need to go (vs 3)?

Where did Joseph head to (vs 4)? Why?

Why is it significant that Joseph was a descendant of David?

Who traveled with Joseph (vs 5)?

How was she described (vs 5)? Why is this important?

What happened while they were in Bethlehem (vs 6)?

Where was Jesus laid once he was born (vs 7)? Why?

Why do you think God chose to bring Jesus into the world in such humble conditions?

Who was in the fields (vs 8)?

What shone around the shepherds (vs 9)?

What good news did the angel bring (vs 10-12)?

What did the angels who appeared begin to do (vs 13)?

What did they declare (vs 14)?

What did the shepherds do (vs 15)?

What was the response of the shepherds and the people who heard about this event (vs 16-18)?

What did the light cause in the heart of Mary (vs 19)?

What did the light cause in the hearts of the shepherds (vs 20)?

### **A Light to the revelation of the Gentiles**

#### **Luke 2:21-38**

What did they do with Jesus (vs 22)?

Why did they do this (vs 23)?

*\*\*\*According to Leviticus 12:2-5, when a woman bore a son she would be ceremonially unclean for 40 days. After that time period, they could offer a sacrifice for her purification.*

What does verse 24 reveal about the financial status of Mary and Joseph?

*\*\*\*The Law stated that poor people could offer two doves or pigeons instead of the yearling lamb.*

How is Simeon described (vs 25)?

What was he waiting for (vs 25)?

What had the Holy Spirit revealed to him (vs 26)?

How did he come into the temple (vs 27)?

What do you think that meant?

What did Simeon do once he saw the baby (vs 28)?

Why did Simeon say he could die in peace (vs 29-30)?

Who did he say this baby came for (vs 31)?

What was the baby going to become for the Gentiles (vs 32)?

What would He be for the Israelites (vs 32)?

How did Mary and Joseph respond to Simeon (vs 33)?

What did Simeon tell Mary about Jesus (vs 34)?

What do you think he meant?

What was going to happen to Jesus (vs 35)?

How was this going to affect Mary (vs 35)?

What was Jesus going to reveal (vs 35)?

Why do you think Simeon declared this?

Who does verse 36 mention?

How is she described (vs 36)?

What did she do on a daily basis (vs 37)?

What did she do when she came into the temple area and saw Jesus (vs 38)?

**We saw His star**

**Matthew 2:1-2**

What did the wise men want to know (vs 1-2)?

Why did they come to Jerusalem (vs 2)?

How do you think they knew what this star meant?

*\*\*\*There is great debate on who these men actually were and how they knew about this star.*

Why do you think God used a star to inform them?

*\*\*\*Numbers 24:17 predicts that a star would come from the line of Jacob. Daniel lived in “the east” for much of his life and perhaps he taught the wise men of the land about the coming Messiah and the importance of looking for a star.*

**Matthew 2:9-10**

What appeared to the wise men again (vs 9)?

How did they respond? Why?

**Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

**Have seen a great light**

**Matthew 4:12-17**

What did Jesus do after He heard about the arrest of John (vs 12)?

Why do you think He did this?

*\*\*\*John the Baptist ministered in the region of Judea. Jesus had been baptized by John in that region and had also fasted in that region. He had not yet started His public ministry, and was now ready to start, but wanted to start in Galilee.*

Where did Jesus choose to live (vs 13)?

Why do you think He chose to live there (vs 13-14)?

What had been predicted in Isaiah 9?

*\*\*\*Though Nazareth was not far from Capernaum (about 30 miles), Capernaum and the other cities that surrounded the Sea of Galilee is where more of the population in that region would have lived.*

How had Isaiah described the people who lived in that region (vs 16)?

What did Jesus want them to see (vs 16)?

What had dawned on them (vs 16)?

Why do you think “light” is used two times in verse 16?

What was the message that Jesus declared to help bring about light in the darkness (vs 17)?

**White as light**

**Matthew 17:1-8**

Who did Jesus take with Him (vs 1)?

What happened to Jesus (vs 2)?

How was the appearance of Jesus described (vs 2)?

Who appeared with Jesus (vs 3)?

What did Peter say should be done (vs 4)?

Why do you think he said this?

How is the cloud described (vs 5)?

Why do you think it was a “bright cloud” (vs 5)?

What did God declare (vs 5)?

How did the disciples respond to this (vs 6)?

How did Jesus comfort them (vs 7)?

What happened after Jesus told them not to fear (vs 8)?

**To give light**

**Luke 1:67-80**

What had just taken place (read vs 57-66)?

How was Zechariah able to prophesy (vs 67)?

What had God chosen to do (vs 68)?

What did God raise up (vs 69)?

How was this planned by God (vs 70)?

What was God’s plan (vs 71)?

What had God remembered by sending Jesus (vs 72-73)?

What did God desire as a result (vs 74-75)?

Is this how you follow God? Explain.

What would John become (vs 76)?

What would he do (vs 76-77)?

What was said about the mercy of God (vs 78)?

Why do you think the illustration of the sunrise was used (vs 78)?

What would the forgiveness of sins bring (vs 79)?

Why do you think light and peace are mentioned together in verse 79?

**The whole body full of light**

**Luke 11:33-36**

What do people not do with a lamp (vs 33)?

How is your eye described (vs 34)?

What happens when your eye is full of light (vs 34)?

What do you think Jesus meant?

*\*\*\*Most likely, Jesus was comparing light with good eyesight and darkness with bad eyesight. The only way a person could see was if they had good eyesight. If they were blind, they would live in darkness.*

What were believers warned about (vs 35)?

What will happen if our whole body is full of light (vs 36)?

What is a body that is full of light compared to (vs 36)?

What point do you think Jesus was making in this passage?

*\*\*\*The surrounding context of these verses dealt with the dangers of the false religion the Pharisees were practicing. The Pharisees refused to repent (vs 32) and were compared to cups that were clean on the outside, but filthy on the inside (vs 39). The eye was like the heart. If the heart was spiritually healthy, the whole body would be healthy. The healthier we are spiritually, the more the light of Christ will shine through us.*

How can you make sure your heart is full of light?

### **Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

### **You are the light of the world**

#### **Matthew 5:13-14**

What did Jesus say His followers were (vs 13)?

What do you think the end of verse 13 means?

What did Jesus say His followers were (vs 14)?

What did Jesus say about a city on a hill (vs 14)?

What point was Jesus making about light?

What do people not do with light (vs 15)?

What do they do with light (vs 15)?

What was the purpose of light (vs 15)?

What point was Jesus making?

How did Jesus set the example for this?

### **Who gives light to everyone**

#### **John 1:1-13**

What was in the beginning (vs 1)?

What is verse 1 declaring?

Why is it important to realize that Jesus was with God in the beginning (vs 2)?

What does verse 3 declare about Jesus?

Why is it important to realize that Jesus made all things (vs 3)?

What two things were in Jesus (vs 4)?

- 1.
- 2.

What does the light do (vs 5)?

Why is it important to realize that darkness can not overcome light (vs 5)?

What does verse 6 declare about John?

What was John a witness to (vs 7)?

What does verse 8 state about John?

How is Jesus described (vs 9)?

Who has the ability to have light because of Jesus (vs 9)?

Why is it significant that Jesus came to the world (vs 9)?

What did verse 10 reiterate about Jesus?

*\*\*\*It is amazing to think that Jesus created the world, but yet He humbled Himself to come into the world as a baby.*

Who did not recognize (vs 10)?

Who else failed to recognize Jesus (vs 11)?

Who was given the right to become children of God (vs 12)?

What do you think it means to “receive” Jesus (vs 12)?

Why is becoming a child of God so significant?

How does this birth come about (vs 13)?

**Comes to the light**

**John 3:16-21**

How did God show His love to the world (vs 16)?

What happens to those who believe in Him (vs 16)?

What did Jesus not come into the world to do (vs 17)?

Why did Jesus come to the world (vs 17)?

What are those who believe in Him delivered from (vs 18)?

What happens to those who don't believe (vs 18)?

Why is it important to realize that our sinful nature condemns us (vs 18)?

What came into the world (vs 19)?

What do many people love (vs 19)?

Why do they love this (vs 19)?

What do wicked people hate (vs 20)?

Why are people afraid of having their works exposed (vs 20)?

Who comes to the light (vs 21)?

What can clearly be seen in those who believe (vs 21)?

Why do you think light is used to describe good and darkness is used to describe evil?

**I am the Light of the world**

**John 8:12-20**

What did Jesus declare that He was (vs 12)?

What will happen to those who follow Him?

Why do you think He described Himself this way?

What did the Pharisees say (vs 13)?

What did Jesus say about Himself (vs 14)?

What did Jesus say was different about His judgements (vs 15)?

Who did Jesus say He judged with (vs 16)?

What did the Jewish law declare (vs 17)?

What two witnesses affirmed who Jesus was (vs 18)?

What did Jesus declare about the Pharisees (vs 19)?

**Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

**I am the Light of the world**

**John 9:1-7**

What did Jesus see (vs 1)?

What question did the disciples ask (vs 2)?

Why do you think they asked this question?

*\*\*\*It was a common thought that a persons physical problems were a direct result of sin.*

Why did Jesus say this man had been born blind (vs 3)?

How does this put physical ailments in perspective?

What did Jesus say about the works of God (vs 4)?

What do you think He meant?

*\*\*\*It appears that Jesus was attempting to help the disciples to see how important it was to help others while they had the chance on this earth. When you are gone from this earth, you will no longer be able to be a help to others.*

What did Jesus say He was (vs 5)?

Why do you think He prefaced it with “as long as I am in this world” (vs 5)?

*\*\*\*While Jesus was in the world, He was a light to the world. Once he left the world, He left His followers in the world to be a light to the world.*

What did Jesus do to the man's eyes (vs 6)?

What command did Jesus give him (vs 7)?

What was the result (vs 7)?

**You may become sons of light**

**John 12:27-50**

What did Jesus say about his soul (vs 27)?

What did Jesus want to ask the Father (vs 27)?

What did Jesus know about His purpose (vs 27)?

What did Jesus ultimately want to happen (vs 28)?

What did a voice from heaven declare (vs 28)?

What do you think this meant?

What did the crowd hear (vs 29)?

What did Jesus say about this voice (vs 30)?

What did Jesus say was going to happen (vs 31)?

Who will be cast out of the world (vs 31)?

What do you think Jesus meant by this?

*\*\*\*Though the final judgment is still in the future, the conquering of Satan would be fulfilled when Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus would conquer sin and death.*

What would Jesus do when he was "lifted up" (vs 32)?

What did Jesus mean by this (vs 33)?

What were the people confused about (vs 34)?

What did Jesus call himself in verse 35?

Why did Jesus tell them to walk while they still had the light (vs 35)?

What happens to those who walk in darkness (vs 35)?

What did Jesus tell the people to believe in (vs 36)?

What would happen to those who believed (vs 36)?

Why do you think Jesus emphasized light?

How had many of the Jews responded to Jesus (vs 37-38)?

How was this fulfillment of prophecy (vs 38-40)?

How did many of the Jewish authorities respond (vs 42)?

What did they love (vs 43)?

How does this type of attitude still exist today?

Why is it important to believe both in Jesus and God (vs 44-45)?

What did Jesus come into the world to be (vs 46)?



What will happen for those who believe in Jesus (vs 46)?

What did Jesus come into the world to do (vs 47)?

What will judge those who do not believe (vs 48)?

What authority did Jesus have to speak (vs 49)?

Why do you think Jesus emphasized this?

What did Jesus know about God's commandment (vs 50)?

What do you think this meant?

### **A light for the Gentiles**

#### **Acts 13:44-47**

Who gathered to hear what Paul was speaking (vs 44)?

How did the Jews respond (vs 45)?

Why do you think the Jews were angry that Paul was preaching to the Gentiles?

What had the Jews done (vs 46)?

What did Paul say God had called them to be (vs 47)?

What was God's desire for the world (vs 47)?

### **Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

### **Put on the armor of light**

#### **Romans 13:11-14**

What hour did Paul say had come (vs 11)?

What is important to understand each day (vs 11)?

What should we "cast off" (vs 12)?

What do you think those works are?

What should we put on (vs 12)?

How would you describe that armor?

How should we walk (vs 13)?

What are six things we are told not to walk in (vs 13)?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Who should we put on (vs 14)?

What do you think that means?

What should we not do for the flesh (vs 14)?

What do you think that practically looks like in your life?

How does your sinful flesh war against the light?

**Let light shine out of darkness**

**2 Corinthians 4:1-6**

What did Paul not lose (vs 1)? What do you think that meant?

What did Paul refuse to do (vs 2)?

Why was God's Word and the truth so important to Paul (vs 2)?

What do you think verse 3 means?

What has the god of this world done (vs 4)?

What are unbelievers not able to see (vs 4)?

Who did Paul understand that he was and who Jesus was (vs 5)?

What did God say (vs 6)?

What light has God given us (vs 6)?

What point do you think Paul was trying to make?

**Light with darkness**

**2 Corinthians 6:14-18**

What are believers told not to do (vs 14)?

How did Paul use light and darkness in this passage?

What are light and darkness compared to (vs 15)?

What does God desire from His people (vs 16)?

How should we live as people of light (vs 17)?

What does God want for you (vs 18)?

**I am the Light of the world**

**Ephesians 5:1-14**

What should you be (vs 1)?

What does that look like (vs 2)?

What shouldn't be a part of your life (vs 3)?

What should your life be filled with (vs 4)?

What is emphasized in verse 5? Why do you think it is?

Why do you think Paul warned about deception (vs 6)?

Who should you not be a partner with (vs 7)?

What were you (vs 8)? What are you (vs 8)?

How should you walk (vs 8)?

How is light found (vs 9)?

What should be one of your goals in life (vs 10)?

What should you not do (vs 11)?

What do verses 13-14 say about the light?

What will happen when we awake from darkness and choose to do what is right (vs 14)?

**Children of light**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

How will the day of the Lord come (vs 1-2)?

What will people be declaring (vs 3)?

How should the return of the Lord not surprise you (vs 4)?

How are believers described (vs 5)? Why?

What should we not do (vs 6)?

What do you think Paul meant by this?

What was declared about night (vs 7)?

What point do you think this illustration was getting across?

How should you live as children of the day (vs 8)?

Describe how you can practically put this verse into practice?

What did God not do (vs 9)?

What did Jesus do (vs 10)?

What should we do for each other (vs 11)?

**Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

**Unapproachable light**

**1 Timothy 6:11-16**

What was Timothy told to pursue (vs 11)?

What fight was he to be involved in (vs 12)?

What was he to take hold of (vs 12)?

What do you think this meant?

How was God described in verse 13?

What did Jesus do (vs 13)?

How should you seek to keep the commandments of God (vs 14)?

What will take place at the proper time (vs 15)?

How is God described (vs 16)?

Why do you think Paul placed such a great emphasis on who God was and who Jesus was?

**His marvelous light**

**1 Peter 2:9-12**

What did Peter say followers of God were (vs 9)?

What does God want us to claim (vs 9)?

What has God done for you (vs 9)?

What were you (vs 10)?

What are you now (vs 10)?

What did Peter urge believers to do (vs 11)?

How should you live (vs 12)?

What should be the desire for your life (vs 12)?

**God is light**

**1 John 1:5-9**

What message was John proclaiming (vs 5)?

How can a person be a liar (vs 6)?

What do you have when you walk in the light (vs 7)?

Why is the blood of Jesus so important (vs 7)?

How can you deceive yourself (vs 8)?

What should you do when you sin (vs 9)?

What is emphasized again in verse 10? Why?

**The true light is already shining**

**1 John 2:7-11**

What was Paul writing (vs 7)?

How could a commandment be old and new (vs 8)?

What was already shining (vs 8)?

What do you think John meant by this?

What will those who walk in light not do (vs 9)?

Who abides in the light (vs 10)?

Who walks in darkness (vs 11)?

How can darkness blind a person's eyes (vs 11)?

**Remove your light**

**Revelation 2:1-7**

Who was this passage written to (vs 1)?

How is Jesus described (vs 1)?

What did Jesus know about the church (vs 2)?

What else were they commended for (vs 3)?

What did Jesus have against them (vs 4)?

What were they challenged to do (vs 5)?

What would Jesus do if they failed to repent (vs 5)?

What will those who obey receive (vs 7)?

**I am the Light of the world**

**Revelation 21:22-22:5**

Why didn't John see a temple (vs 22)?

Why doesn't the new Jerusalem need light (vs 23)?

How will all those who live in the new city walk (vs 24)?

What will there not be (vs 25)?

Who will be part of this great city (vs 27)?

What did the angel show John (vs 1)?

What do you think is the significance of a river?

What will be by the river (vs 2)?

What will not be in this city (vs 3)?

What will all people do (vs 3)?

What will all men see (vs 4)?

Why is this significant?

What will be in the foreheads of all those in this city (vs 4)?

What do you think this symbolized?

What will “be no more” (vs 5)?

What will no one need (vs 5)?

Where will light come from (vs 5)?

**Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?