

LET THERE BE LIGHT

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: A PRAYER WALK GUIDE

ARE YOU READY TO SEE THE LIGHTS?

Build up the excitement as you get your coats, gloves and hats on and take a walk around your local neighbourhood. As you journey around your community stop at different points and read the following Bible verses, giving an overview of 'light' in the Bible.



**EACH TIME YOU STOP,
PRAY AS YOU FEEL LED,
OR USE THE PRAYER
SUGGESTIONS IN
EACH SECTION.**

1 GOD GAVE US LIGHT

‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.’



GENESIS 1:1-5

GOD GAVE US LIGHT

One of God’s first actions in creation, in giving us this world we live in, was to gift us with light.

- What does light do?
- Imagine a world without light...what would that be like?

PRAY

- Thank God for His creation, and that He gave us light to enjoy.
- Thank God for the community you are walking around, and all that God has created within the neighbourhood.

2 GOD IS THE LIGHT WHO GUIDES US

A LIGHT ON MY PATH

Throughout the Bible we see how God uses light to guide His people. One example is in Exodus, when we see the Israelites flee captivity and start their journey to the promised land.

‘After leaving Sukkoth they camped at Ethan on the edge of the desert. By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night lefts its place in front of the people.’

Exodus 13: 20-22

Part Two continues

‘Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path’ Psalm 119:105

- How has God guided you in your life? Share some stories with each other.
- Can you think of another example in the Bible (think about the Christmas story) when light guides people?

PRAY

- Stop and listen to God. Pause and wait. Where might God be guiding you?
- You won’t know these situations, but pray for the people in the street you are standing in, that they too are guided to God and by God in their lives.

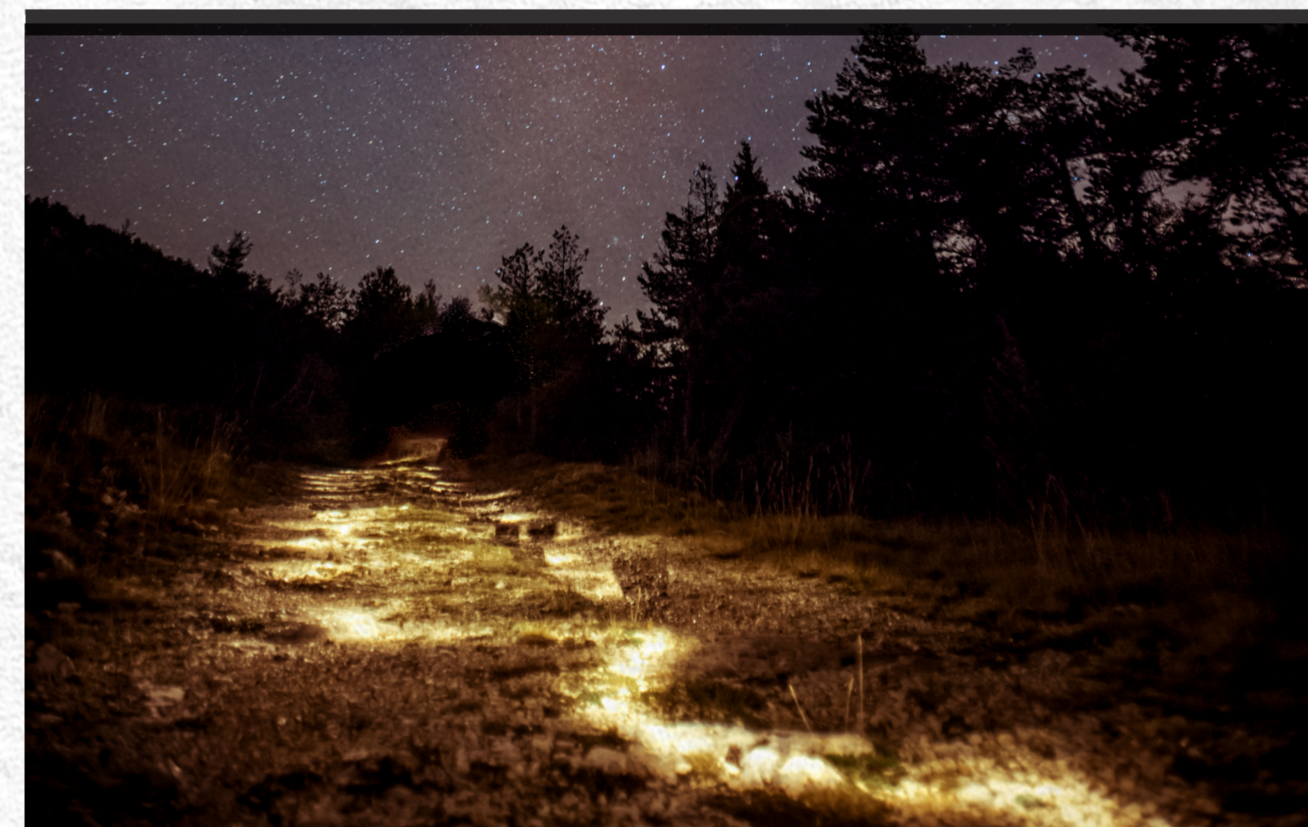


THE LIGHT OF SALVATION

God created each of us to make our own choices.

Unfortunately, we often don’t make the best choices. So God promises to send someone who offers each of us a choice to follow Him, and to be forgiven of all of those bad choices.

- Who do you think this passage might be talking about?



YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR MY FEET, A LIGHT ON MY PATH - PSALM 119:105

3 THE LIGHT OF SALVATION

There is a promise that someone will come, who will be the light of salvation.

‘The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned...For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.’ Isaiah 9: 2, 6

PRAY

- Think about some of those choices you are not proud of and say sorry to God. Know that when we say sorry, God always forgives us.
- Say sorry to God for when we, the church, have not cared for and served the community you are standing within.

‘When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8: 12

Jesus is the light of the world, the promised one who shines

light into the darkness! Look at the lights around you and see how beautiful, majestic and powerful they are.

- Can you spot any darkness within the lights you can see? (Hopefully not! Because, like Jesus, light is pure and breaks into the darkness).
- What is the choice that Jesus offers to people?

4 JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



PRAY

- Pray over the neighbourhood you are in, that each light you see represents a person making a choice to follow Jesus.
- Pray that you, who have ‘the light of life’, will shine the light and love of Jesus to all you meet in this community.

5 A NEW, RESTORED CITY OF LIGHT

‘Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every

month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.’

Revelation 22:1-5

Part Five continues

This describes a vision John (a character in the Bible) had of where we will go once we die, when we believe and trust in Jesus.

It describes a restored city where God reigns, where there will be everything we need in abundance, where there will be no more suffering and where we will all be together, praising God.

- What would you like to see restored, made new, in this community in 2023.

A NEW, RESTORED CITY OF LIGHT

• Ask God, the one who will make all things new, to restore the neighbourhoods/streets/schools/businesses/etc. in the area that you are standing in.

- Finally stop, pause and listen to God. What might God be saying to you for this community. Pray as the Spirit leads you.



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