

OMG — reclaiming the NAME above all names Week 4 — Light of the World

Need help navigating an online group session? Reach out to MichaelS@wschurch.org with questions and to get tips for how to stay connected even when you can't meet in person!

In the beginning, God declared, "Let there be light," and it was so. And ever since, God has been faithful to provide light for his people in the darkest of times. Through Jesus' victory over the grave, we have confidence that we are living in the light – even when all around us we see darkness.

Scripture:

This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.

1st John 1:5 NLT

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8:12 NLT

You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 NLT

Icebreaker and Intro Questions:

- 1. If you could order take-out from any restaurant during quarantine, where would you order from?
- 2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)

Discussion Questions:

- 3. The news has been filled with heartbreaking stories and we have all faced disappointment during this season. Have you had a particularly rough moment?
- 4. Read 1st John 1:5 and John 8:12 as a group. How does following Jesus affect those dark and disappointing seasons in life?
- 5. Eddie shared, "the presence of darkness doesn't equal the absence of God." Can you think of a time in your life when this was true?
- 6. Read 2 Corinthians 4:5-6 together as a group. Eddie said, "The best reflective surface for the light of God is people so reflect him always." How can we reflect God's light this week? Brainstorm as a group and then pick one that you want to focus on this week.
- 7. Spend some time in prayer for our community and for God to show us ways to be a light this week.

This week:

- Find a few moments to reflect on God's light that shines in the darkness. Light a candle and put it on your table for a meal, or somewhere in your living space where you can see it. Read some of these Scriptures out loud either on your own, or with others (family or roomates).
 - o John 1:1-5, 9
 - Psalm 23:4
 - o Psalm 27
 - Philippians 3:10
 - 2 Corinthians 4:5-6
 - o James 1:17
- Spend some time praying for the things that are on your heart and mind using this phrase, "God shine your light on ______. Bring the light of Jesus to ______. Let me be your light to _____."

Notes: