

Title: A Revealing Light

Big Idea: The light of Christ reveals the glory of God & the condition of our hearts.

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

II Timothy 1:10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Hebrew 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all *peoples* to Myself.” **33** This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Romans 6:11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. Embracing the cross brings victory.

34 The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how *can* You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son of Man?”

35 Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. **36** While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

37 But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, **38** that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: “Lord, who has believed our report?

2. Rejecting Light brings darkness.

39 Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: **40** “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, lest they should see with *their* eyes, lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, so that I should heal them.” **41** These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

42 Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; **43** for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Luke 12:8 “Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. 9 But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

44 Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. **45** And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. **46** I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. **48** He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

49 For I have not spoken on My own *authority*; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. **50** And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

3. Confessing Christ brings life.

Discussion Questions

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time, but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. If the world is condemned for its rejection of Jesus, why do you think we are still drawn away by the world and its ways?
3. What have you learned or been reminded about regarding the devil from this study?
4. Do you see yourself as your own greatest enemy? Why or why not?
5. Have you seen or sensed darkness overtaking you or someone else because of the rejection of Christ's light?
6. Confession means saying the same thing, why do you think confession of sin & confession of Christ are so important in our Christian life?