



## Bible study for the week starting December 17, 2023

### SHARE

Did you have a tradition of looking at Christmas lights when you were growing up? What was it?

### READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read **Isaiah 60:1-6a, 19-20**. You hear the theme: “Nations will come to Your light.” The good news was never just for the people of Israel, whether in the Old Testament or New Testament (or now). What is the purpose of light in these verses?
2. Now read **Revelation 21:22-25**. The new creation is different than the original; what’s different about the light? Why does it matter?
3. Light is a theme that weaves its way through the entire Bible. What significance does light have, both real and as a metaphor? Where are some well-known places light is discussed?
4. Read **John 8:12, 23-30**. It is during the Feast of Booths that Jesus declares Himself the Light of the world; this comes after (during the same feast) Jesus refers to Himself as the “Living Water.” Both things happen during parts of the feast that involve lessons in dependence upon God for providence and guidance (see explanation at <https://jewsforjesus.org/blog/sukkot-a-promise-of-living-water>). What promises does this light evoke (See also John 1)?
5. In a world full of distraction and interruption, how can lights lead us back to a place of wonder and joy?

### PRAY

Pray that God would shine His light into your heart and the hearts of others, both this week leading up to Christmas and at all times. Pray also that God would give you opportunity to cross paths with those He has for you, that You would reflect His love to the world.



## LIGHT OF LIGHTS

John 8:12, 23-30 (Isaiah 60:1-6a, 19-20; Rev. 21:22-25)  
December 17, 2023 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

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*“[Jesus said] I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*

-John 8:12

Light and LIFE to all He brings.

Light is meant to be SEEN.

“...the GLORY of God gives it light, and its lamp is the LAMB...”

-Revelation 21:23

“The TRUE light...was coming into the world...” -John 1:9

The NICENE CREED: Everything being said is to AFFIRM that Jesus is NO LESS God than the Father.

An INTERRUPTION can actually create a moment of JOY.