



Light of the World
Part 1: Most Wonderful
Forrest Jenan – December 4, 2016

INTRODUCTION

During the Christmas season, we're confronted with problems we can't solve, people we can't control, and expectations we can't meet. It's important not to lose sight of the truth that Christmas isn't the most wonderful time of the year because of what is happening but because of what happened. Christmas isn't the most wonderful time of the year because of who is with us but because of who is for us. Christmas is a reminder that Jesus is the life and light that overcomes darkness.

HANG OUT (warming up to the topic)

1. Check in to see how everyone's week was.
2. Take time to review this week's teaching and discuss your reactions. Talk about what most challenged, puzzled, and encouraged you.

HEAR (listening to God through Scripture)

3. Talk about your favorite Christmas tradition from your family of origin. What did you like about it? In what ways is Christmas different in your current family than in your family of origin?
 - a. Do you enjoy Christmas? Why or why not?
4. What are some things that distract you from God during the Christmas season? Why do you think it's so easy for us to lose sight of the meaning of Christmas?
5. Read **John 1:1-5**
 - a. Is it difficult for you to believe that Jesus' light can overcome the darkness in your life? Why or why not?
 - b. Are there any ways that Jesus has brought light to your darkness that come to mind?
 - c. Forrest mentioned that one way to think of Jesus is as "God con carne" or "God with meat." What is the significance of God becoming flesh? What can this tell us about the character of God?

HUDDLE (making it personal and praying together)

6. What are some things complicating this Christmas season for you? How would your stress be reduced if you lived in the truth that Jesus is the life and light that overcomes darkness?
7. What is one thing you can do this week to continually remind yourself that Jesus is the life and light that overcomes darkness? What can this group do to support you?
8. *End by praying for one another.*