



## **LifePoint Family Christmas - Whispers in the Dark**

What is the best way to do Christmas Lights on a scale of 1-10? (1 being none at all BahHumbug Christmas and 10 being Griswold Christmas) How should they look? Multi colored lights, or Uniform in color, blinking or no blinking?

**Read: John 1:1-5, Genesis 3:15, Genesis 12:2-3, Exodus 2:7-10**

Why do you think John used imagery from the creation story to start his Gospel?

Immediately after the fall of man we read the first pronouncement of the Gospel (Gen 3:15). What does this say about the level of love, care, and concern God has for us?

How does God's promise that Abraham would be a blessing to all the families of the earth impact the way you view the Gospel?

Does God leave any people group out of that promise? Have we left people out of it?

What do you feel is the main reason those in the dark cannot comprehend Him?

How does knowing that God sees the oppression and hears the cries of His people affect your faith in Him? Does it cause frustration or give comfort?

When were you aware of the chaos of your life and your need for a Savior? How did that happen, or how does that still happen, for you?

Are we still guilty of failing to listen to God today?

In the message, this statement was made, “Anytime we break from trusting in the Lord we put His voice on mute and willingly walk back into the dark.” Do you have any experience with this? How did that turn out for you?

Until we come to the end of ourselves, we will never understand our need for a Savior. What does it take to come to the end of ourselves? Is it different for everybody? If so, why do you think that is?

Christmas is a time for us to shine the Light and share the Hope that we have in Jesus.

They need our truth, they also need our grace.

- How do grace and truth work together? Can the Gospel truly be effective if we have one but not the other?

They need our sympathy, they also need our generosity.

- How does sympathy drive us to the generosity that makes a difference?
- How does sympathy alone fall short?

They need our Hope, they also need our testimony.

- How do we share our hope without sharing our testimony?
- Even if we could do that, should we?

Read the passage below and reflect on it as a group. How does this help motivate us to share Jesus this Christmas?

#### **- 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 MSG**

***“If you only look at us, you might well miss the brightness. We carry this precious Message around in the unadorned clay pots of our ordinary lives. That’s to prevent anyone from confusing God’s incomparable power with us. As it is, there’s not much chance of that. You know for yourselves that we’re not much to look at. We’ve been surrounded and battered by troubles, but we’re not demoralized; we’re not sure what to do, but we know that God knows what to do; we’ve been spiritually terrorized, but God hasn’t left our side; we’ve been thrown down, but we haven’t broken. What they did to Jesus, they do to us—trial and torture, mockery and murder; what Jesus did among them, he does in us—he lives! Our lives are at constant risk for Jesus’ sake, which makes Jesus’ life all the more evident in us. While we’re going through the worst, you’re getting in on the best!”***

As you close in prayer tonight, please pray for the Peace of Israel, the Growth of the Kingdom, and that we as a church might bring Glory to God!