

Christmas Series 2018
"JESUS: Light to Live By"
(Part 1)

John 1:1-14 (MSG)

The Life-Light

(1-2)"The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one.

(3-5)Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!— came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

(6-8)There once was a man, his name John, sent by God to point out the way to the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in. John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light.

(9-13)The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice. He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten.

(14)The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish."

Notables from other translations:

"The light shines in the darkness, and **the darkness can never extinguish it.**"
John 1:5 NLT

"**They are reborn**—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but **a birth that comes from God.**"
John 1:13 NLT

"So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was **full of unfailing love and faithfulness.**"
John 1:14a NLT

"And through his creative inspiration this **Living Expression** made all things, for nothing has existence apart from him!"
John 1:3 TPT

“For the **Light of Truth** was about to come into the world and shine upon everyone.”
John 1:9 TPT

Three Ways Jesus is our Light to Live By:

1. Lights up the Darkness (John 8:12b)

“Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
John 8:12b ESV

2. Lights up our Path (Psalm 119:105)

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”
Psalms 119:105 ESV

3. Lights up the World (Matt 5:14-16)

““You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”
Matthew 5:14-16 ESV

”O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (God with us)