

## **JESUS, THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS**

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHT #2**

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Woodland Church

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“In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.” (John 1:1-14, NLT)

1. THE LIGHT IS JESUS.
2. THE LIGHT IS THE CREATOR OF ALL THINGS.
3. THE LIGHT IS GOD.

### **THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS GIVES ME JOY.**

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. “Don't be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!” (Luke 2:9–11)

“Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him.” (John 1:3, GN)

“For from within, out of a person’s heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you.” (Mark 7:21–23)

Are you willing to say, “I am a moral failure. I don’t love God with all my heart, soul, strength, and mind. I don’t love my neighbor as myself. And, therefore, I am guilty, and I need forgiveness and pardon before I need anything else”? It takes enormous courage to admit these things, because it means throwing your old self-image out and getting a new one through Jesus Christ. And yet that is the foundation for all the other things that Jesus can bring into your life—all the comfort, all the hope, all the joyful humility, and everything else.

- *Tim Keller, Hidden Christmas, pg 60*

“God sent Christ to be our sacrifice. Christ offered his life’s blood, so that by faith in him we could come to God. And God did this to show that in the past he was right to be patient and forgive sinners. This also shows that God is right when he accepts people who have faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:25–26, CEV)

1. THERE IS NO OTHER LIGHT BUT JESUS.
2. EVERYONE NEEDS JESUS.
3. THE WORLD WAS MADE FOR JESUS.
4. ONE DAY THE WORLD WILL BE FILLED WITH THE LIGHT OF JESUS!

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”  
(John 1:5, NLT)

## **THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS SHOULD SHINE THROUGH ME.**

### **1. USE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.**

Jesus said, “No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been.”<sup>20</sup> So the man started off to visit the Ten Towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them.”  
Mark 5:19–20 (NLT)

## **2. PRAY PASSIONATELY FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.**

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should.”  
(Colossians 4:2–4, NLT)

“Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.” (Colossians 4:5–6, NLT)

## **3. NURTURE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.**

“Levi invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. (There were many people of this kind among Jesus' followers.)” (Mark 2:15, NLT)