

Discussion Notes

Let There Be Light: The Light is Bright

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Last week we considered that all along in the human journey an *ancient light was on the way*. Isaiah 9.2 share this good news. Once this Light appears, we see that it has, in fact, lit up the darkness:

- Colossians 1.12-13
- 1 Peter 2.9
- 1 John 1.5-7

This is how the Light came into the world, and this is who was on the guest list to welcome him!

Luke 2.9-20

- Shepherds are invited by angels to welcome Jesus to the earth. Who were they?
 - Took care of the Temple flock, though they were religious outcasts, being unclean because of their standard of living.
 - Mobile, and considered to be thieves as such as they wandered over people's land.
 - Were so untrustworthy that they weren't allowed to give testimony in law courts.
 - The irony is clear: God chooses the outcasts, the untrustworthy, the unexpected to witness and bear witness to this light. The darkness is lit up right away.
- What can we know about the Light?
 - This Light is for all people. Everyone matters to God.
 - The Light returns us to what we were created for, and who we were created to be.
- What does the light clarify?
 - Our identity. Sons and daughters of God, the Light, not the darkness.
 - Our purpose. To help bring more light to the world.

May we welcome this Light in this season.

Discussion Questions:

- Did this teaching challenge some of your views of the birth of Jesus at all?
- What other aspects of light and darkness do you see in this story?
- Who or what needs light around you? How do we bring it?