

December 17 - 23

For Everyone | Light of the World

Icebreaker: What is it like when you lose power at night? How do you feel? What do you have to do differently? How do you feel when the light comes back on?

Read Matthew 5:14-16

- In general what does light do?
- What does it mean to be light of the world?
 - How does this passage describe it? (see verse 16)
 - O How does Ephesians 5:7-11 help us understand this concept?
- Talk about how our light is connected to Jesus as the light. (See John 1:4–5 and John 8:12)
- What is the ultimate purpose of being light to the world?
- Draw a connection between this passage and the beginning of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:2–11).
 - How might people who live out the list in the Beatitudes bring glory to God?
 - What difference does it make to the culture to have people who are living as poor in spirit, meek, hungering for righteousness, and merciful?
- How does this compare or contrast with the idea in Matthew 6:1 that we not do things to be seen by others?
- What does darkness look like in the world today?
- What would it look like for our light to drive out the darkness?
- What are ways we might hide our light from those around us? What would cause us to hide our light?
- What happens when followers of Jesus shine their light collectively?
- Why is Christmas a good reminder of having light in the middle of a dark world?
 Think about how the use of light during the Christmas season help remind us about Jesus's birth.

