



Christmas at The Cove

Part 3 - Let Your Light Shine

Discussion Guide

Christmas is sometimes called “the Season of Light.” That’s really appropriate, given that it’s the time of year when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world. We talk about the miracles of the star in the east and angels filling the night sky. Now it’s our time to shine!

Jump Start

1. What light have you noticed in this season? Christmas lights on homes or the light in someone's eyes? Are you feeling “light” in your step or are you hoping for the “light at the end of the tunnel”?
2. *“You and I are the light of the world.”* You may be thinking, NOT ME! Now read [Matthew 5:14-15](#). Is being the light in darkness something to achieve or a byproduct of being a Jesus follower? If you feel you aren't a light to the world, what might be the problem? Is shining your light a choice?
3. Read [John 1:4 and 8:12](#). Where does our spiritual light come from? What is the promise for you? Also read [2 Corinthians 4:6](#). What does spiritual light reveal?
4. *“Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life...”* (Philippians 2:15b-16a, NIV). Read [Matthew 5:16 and 1 John 4:12](#). So, from these passages, how exactly do you let your light shine?
5. Final Thought: Do you know someone who is shining brightly? What do you find most attractive about them? Conversely, is darkness threatening you or your loved ones this season? How can you shine the light of Jesus into that situation?

Deeper

Read the story of Moses communing with God found in [Exodus 33:11-23, and Exodus 34:29-35](#).

6. If you compare verse 33:11 and 33:20, there appears to be a discrepancy. What do you think vs 11 means?

Leader's Note: most commentaries believe he was "hearing" as if face-to-face. But Moses asked for more.

7. In verse 17-23, we find God's response. How do you interpret it?

Leader's Note: God graciously replied to the request. He allowed Moses to see as much of Himself as possible. He shared Himself and interacted with Moses AS A FRIEND, but He also protected Moses from what he could not handle.

8. What did the face of Moses have to do with their encounters? Did Moses have any control over the shine? What was it anyway? How does this apply to your life?