

Message Discussion Guide Week of December 4, 2022

Message: Light it Up, Part 2: Being the Moon

Key Scripture: John 1:6-13
Preacher: Tom Parkinson

Message Highlights:

John the Baptist was sent by God to be a witness to the truth of Jesus. His role was to tell others that Jesus is the light of the world, and to point them to Jesus so that they might believe.

Despite the witness of John the Baptist, the evidence of Jesus' life, and the testimony of many others, the world rejected Jesus. Jesus came to the world that he made and the world rejected him.

- It's akin to going to the doctor, being prescribed with medication that can make you better, and refusing to take the medicine.
- Jesus is the savior of the world, but the world often refuses to recognize that it needs to be saved in the first place.

The gospel promises that when we believe in Jesus, we can have a total transformation in our lives. We can find the light of Christ shining amid the darkness of our hurts, fears, and pains.

When we die, the key question God will ask each of us is, "What did you do with my son, Jesus?"

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Pastor Tom shared that despite the evidence and testimony of witnesses, the world did not receive Jesus. Why do you think so many reject the truth of Jesus? What makes the truth of Jesus hard to believe?
- 2. What does it mean to be a witness for Christ? In what ways does God want you to be a witness? What are tangible ways the light of Christ can be reflected in your life?

3. Read John 1:6-13

- Why do you think it was necessary for John the Baptist to witness to Jesus?
- Why was it so important to help others know that John himself was not the light?
- What does it mean that the world was "his own?" (v. 11)
- What does it mean to be "born of God?"
- How do these verses challenge or inspire you?
- 4. Pastor Tom said that the most important question God will ask us is, "What did you do with my son Jesus?" Why is this question so significant?
- 5. Pastor Tom shared that Holy Communion is an opportunity to receive Jesus. What does communion mean to you? How is your faith strengthened through communion?

Call to Action: Pray for the light of Christ to be reflected in your life. Think about some ways that you can share the light of Christ with others. Then go and do it!