

**Intro:** Ever been watching a movie, someone come in turn on lights Or, asleep...nap...walk in and turn lights on full!  
**HEY! TURN THAT OFF!!!! It HURTS!!!** That's what happened when Jesus stepped onto the scene that first Christmas  
 Light that was dim...suddenly brilliant! Everywhere He went LIGHT started shining...and Some, in fact MANY didn't like it!  
 For some...they LOVED it...they could finally see what life was supposed to be like  
 For others...they HATED it...because it showed all the shadows and darkness and uncleanness in their lives!  
**THAT is what John says to us about the coming of Christ...and His life in our world.**

John 1:1-8 Page 750

In these 18 verses John tell us that there are 3 things we need to understand about the light that Jesus brought into our world.

**1. Jesus Gives Us LIGHT To See LIFE The Way God Intended It To Be. 1:1-4**

When Jesus came, he stepped into a world that was lost in Spiritual darkness. (400 yrs, Temple worship twisted)  
 The Light of the Glory of the OT Temple was present...but men were able to turn, twist, shade and shadow it!  
 In fact it was so bad that when Jesus went to the Temple as an adult he turned over tables and drove people out!

Not really all that different from OUR world The light of the Gospel is PRESENT, But few are paying attention to it!  
 When Jesus came ...He came as a LIGHT...Didn't bring a light...he WAS the Light!

**Vs 4: "In him was life, and the life was the light of men!"**

When John writes and says that in him (Jesus) we find life he meant a number of different things.

- In Jesus we find SPIRITUAL Life:
 

~John 3:16:	Eternal Life:	Forever with the Father
~John 10:10	Abundant Life:	Life that is full and satisfying
	<i>"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."</i>	
~John 12:46	Life in the Light:	No longer live in darkness
	<i>"I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness."</i>	
- In Jesus we find MEANINGFUL Life:
 

~Satisfies our heart	Life that satisfies us	Purpose/Value/Significance/Contribution
~Draw Others to Him	1 Peter 2:9	Called to show forth Others See God in US!

Applic: Christmas Eve Cards? Just simple way to share the light of God's love! (Write a name)
- In Jesus we find Life that CONTRIBUTES To Others:
 

~Acts 26:18	Sent to Open eyes and turn them from darkness to light	
~Mt 10:8	As you go...freely received...freely give! (Heal, Cleanse, Raise)	
	The blessings and goodness of God NEVER intended to stop with us!	

**Illus:** Remember when Andrew met Jesus...Messiah: Went found brother...we have FOUND HIM!

First thing he did...was share...That's the way LIFE is intended to be lived!

Every GOOD Blessing you have received from God... is intended to be shared with someone else!

**Applic:** When I was a kid one of the things my mom loved to do at Christmas was load everyone up into the car and drive around looking at the Christmas lights! I still remember loading everyone up, and fighting with my brothers and sisters over who was going to have the window seats...and who was getting stuck in the middle!

**KEY:** Some of us would rather LOOK at others lights and settle for that...than go through the trouble of putting up our own  
 Why? Hard work! Cold work. Sometimes ours doesn't look as good as everyone else's lights!

So we SETTLE for just looking...watching...driving by and observing...but when go home...no light!

Friday night came home...I don't do much...no more than 7 or 8 strings...door...garage...

Sometimes we are that way as Christians. We want to look...watch...talk about...admire others...but never put up our own!

**2. Jesus Give Us Light To Live By!**

Vs 5-13

- Light For US to live by:

This is almost a play on words I think. (2 ways to understand)

>Light to Find God:	What we need to have that eternal life	Forever	Eternal
>Light to Live by:	What we need to live day to day	Today	Right Now

*For us Jesus Gives us Light to show us the Path To God!*

~Jn 14:6:	The way the truth the life, No one come to Father but by ME!"	There is ONE way!
	The ONLY path to God leads through the heart of Jesus!	Eternal life: CROSS

Share the Gospel: **\*\*1 Cor 15:1** (heart of the good news...)

*Jesus also Give us Light to Live for The Father Every Day*

There are some things that are pleasing to Him...and some that are not!

~\*\*Eph 5:3-13 Once you were children of Darkness...NOW Children of light: Live as children of light!

- **Light For OTHERS to follow:** Someone always following us  
 >Light to find God! Jesus: Disciples in Mark 2 by 2; Paul Rd to Damascus; Us Acts, Matt  
 Applic: Christmas Eve Cards I'll give to "someone" Write down name: Get others...PRAY:  
 FB Share, People all around you are in need!

- **Light to Live For God**  
 Someone is always watching! Paul said: "Follow me as I follow Christ" 1Cor 11:1  
Illus: You know That has ALWAYS been God's design.  
 Not TELLING someone what to do! SHOWING THEM HOW TO LIVE  
 >Jesus with the 12 "Come, follow me!" (He taught them...but in the context of SHOWING THEM!  
 >Tells us the same: "Go and make disciples" Someone to walk as HE walks...WE walk  
 >Parents: "Don't" just TELL children: SHOW THEM! (If they end up doing what you do?)  
 >Friends/Neighbors?Coworkers: TELL them...or show them?

**3. Jesus Gives Us Light To See God Correctly. Vs 14-18**

We need that, because we live in a world that wants to define God the way we want Him, rather than accept Him as He is!  
 We want to make God in OUR image...rather than understand that God has made us in His!  
 Here John says that Jesus brought "light" spiritual understanding to us so that we can see 3 things about God.

- **We See His Glory**  
 Lit = *Righteous Character, Acts and Opinion that results from recognizing that character and those acts*  
*The resulting valid honor and reflected good opinion of who God is and how He acts.*  
*Understanding God's worth...and the honor due Him because of who He is*  
 Illus: Seeing God for who He is in reality...not recreating Him the way we want to be  
 Every single person in the bible that experienced that kind of revelation of God:  
 Fell as dead; Overwhelmed by His glory, Left speechless, or like Paul road to Damascus, struck down  
 Jesus helped us see the reality of who God is
- **We see His Grace:** Our world is so confused about who God is...the ideas are so sad  
 ~God is NOT there: There is no God...Never was...Never will be: Just biological animals We are alone  
 ~God is there, Doesn't CARE: He doesn't concern Himself with us...we are on our own...to figure his all out  
 ~Everywhere/Everything: No sense of right and wrong...just is: Believe total opposites: IT's ok  
 ~There, Angry, Out to get us: Just waiting for us to do the wrong thing!  
 ~Judge: Jury: Executioner: Kind of the thing of Jesus Day: Hundreds of rules...never keep them!

Grace: Totally unfamiliar to people...that That is there...Extends grace, mercy...Know Him...and He cares  
 Jesus came to show us who God is: So much that He said, if you have seen me...you have seen the Father

- **We see Truth:** That God loves us...Wants to be in Relationship with Us  
 There is right and wrong...and when we mess it up...He forgives  
 Restores...Strengthens...Helps us get it right  
 Grace and Truth comes to us through Jesus Christ

**CONCL:** So what are the lights YOU need to see this Christmas?

Not talking about the houses, malls, the light shows in the parks or at the bay, on the boats

What Kind Of Spiritual light do YOU need?

1. Maybe you need to see LIFE differently...  
 Spiritual life                      Meaningful Life                      Contributing Life
2. Maybe today you need some LIGHT to live by!  
 We all get a little lost sometimes...Wander from the Path, Get confused  
 Sometimes...there are people around us that need some help finding their way  
 This Christmas God would have you show them the way to Him  
 Cards...write a name on them....Send a FB post...Share the info....bring someone needs some light
3. Maybe there are some people in your life that Need to See God differently.  
 Tried to make him something He isn't...  
 Believe something that simply isn't true  
 Need to see Him as He really is  
 GLORY                                      GRACE                                      TRUTH