

LET YOUR *Light* SHINE

Introduction

What did Jesus mean when he said, “Let your light shine!”? Was he just giving advice about walking around with a flashlight in the dark? Not exactly. Over the next few days, you will find out exactly what Jesus meant. It will start with a careful study of the word “light.” Did you know the word “light” appears in the Bible over 200 times? That seems like a lot. Anytime God mentions something over and over again in the Bible, it must be important. As you watch each of the six videos make sure to have this devotional handy to take notes and to study further with. It is okay if you need help filling out the devotional. Ask a trusted friend or family member to work with you. Working together is more fun anyway!

Memory Verse

The Bible teaches about the importance of memorizing scripture and making it a part of our daily lives in Deuteronomy 6:4-9. For this devotional series, we want to challenge you to memorize four important words from Jesus in Matthew 5:16.

“Let your light shine!”

Memorizing Bible verses may sound difficult, but you can do it! We believe in you. To help you memorize these important words we have created a sign language video for you. When you put motions to the words it makes it easier to remember. Don't forget to practice and show your amazing skills to your friends.

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Day 1: The Light Is Powerful.

What is the most powerful thing that you can think of? _____

What is more powerful? *Circle one from each of the pairs below.*

- Lion or Puppy
- Mouse or Elephant
- Monster Truck or Bicycle
- Gentle Breeze or Tornado
- Light or Darkness

Verse of the day: John 1:5 “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

What do you think John 1:5 means? _____

Are you scared of the dark? Circle one: Yes or No

Important truth: Most people are afraid of the dark, but there is good news! The light is more powerful than the darkness. When you are afraid all you need to do is turn on the lights or light a candle. When the light overcomes or defeats the darkness you can know that you are safe. The light reminds us that nothing is more powerful than God. God gives us both safety and victory over the darkness.

Prayer time: Thank God for keeping you safe and giving you victory.

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Day 2: God the Father Created the Light.

Of all the things in the world that God created, what is your favorite, and why?

Bible verse of the day: Genesis 1:3 “And God said, ‘Let there be light.’”

Why did God create light first? _____

True or False? After each statement below circle either TRUE or FALSE.

- God created the light. TRUE or FALSE
- When the sun comes up in the morning, I know it's time to wake up. TRUE or FALSE
- When the sun is out it is daytime. TRUE or FALSE
- When the sun goes down at night, I know it's almost time for bed. TRUE or FALSE
- When the moon is out, it's nighttime. TRUE or FALSE

Important truth: When God created the light on the first day of creation, He said it was good. The light is good! It helps us know when it is daytime and nighttime. It brings order to our lives. Without the light, we would be lost. We would not know what time it was or what we should be doing. That would be chaos!

Prayer time: Thank God for being good and being in control.

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Day 3: Jesus brings the light

Have you ever gotten lost? Write about that experience and how it made you feel.

Bible verse of the day: John 8:12 “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life.’”

Use the Bible verse of the day, John 8:12, to fill in the blanks below.

“When _____ spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the _____
of the _____. Whoever follows me will never walk in the
_____, but will have the light of life.’”

We never have to worry about being lost in the darkness with Jesus. Doesn’t that sound amazing? Jesus says we can have this if we follow after him.

List three ways that you can follow after Jesus each day:

Important truth: Jesus brings the powerful light of God with him to share with us. We can have this light and be saved from the darkness if we follow after him.

Prayer time: Thank God for sending Jesus to save us from the darkness.

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Day 4: The light saves us!

Below is a list of some of the most common fears in the world. Circle the ones that you are afraid of.

Spiders

Flying

Snakes

The dark

Public speaking

Being alone

Heights

Being lost

Storms

What is your biggest fear? Write about it and why it makes you afraid.

John 12:36 teaches us that if we believe in the light, which is Jesus, we are His children. You are special. God loves you and will take care of you. You simply pray and ask Him to comfort you when you feel afraid.

Bible verse of the day: Psalm 27:1 “The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear?”

Salvation is a big church word. What does it mean? If you aren't sure look it up in the dictionary or ask someone you trust. Write your answer here:

Important truth: If we trust in Jesus, we become His child. God will give us comfort and guide us when we ask Him.

Prayer time: Thank God for saving you and welcoming you into His family.

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Day 5: The Light Guides Us

We are faced with thousands of different decisions every day. Some are big and some are small. Look at the list below. Circle either BIG or SMALL decision for each one.

- Picking out matching socks for your outfit. BIG or SMALL decision?
- Being kind to everyone, even to people that bug you. BIG or SMALL decision?
- Deciding to eat a hamburger or a cheeseburger for lunch. BIG or SMALL decision?
- Finding a good job that you enjoy going to. BIG or SMALL decision?
- Reading your Bible every day. BIG or SMALL decision?

What is the biggest decision you have ever made? How did it turn out?

Bible verse of the day: Psalm 119:105 “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”

Important truth: The Bible, when we read it, is a light for our path. It helps us know what is best with all of our decisions, big and small. It gives us wisdom and encouragement. It is God’s letter to us and a roadmap for our lives. It can do all these things for us if we decide to read it often.

Prayer time: Thank God for giving you the Bible to light your path.

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Day 6: The light shines through us!

What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you? How did it make you feel?

Bible verse of the day: Matthew 5:16 “In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Important truth: When you believe in Jesus as your Savior, he comes to live inside you. The light of Jesus shines through you when you do good things for others. Too cool! In a world where there is too much hate, it is important to be kind and do good. Doing good helps others see that there is something different about you. That something different is Jesus. People will praise God when they see the good that you do. That is what “Let your light shine!” is all about.

What good things will you do today? Below is a list of good deeds. Circle a few that you think you could do today.

Give someone a compliment.

Let someone go ahead of you in line.

Give someone a hug.

Help with chores without being asked.

Pray for someone.

Tell someone that Jesus loves them.

Send a thank you card in the mail.

Call a friend to just say hello.

Cook a meal for a friend.

Hold the door open for someone.

Donate food or clothing to a shelter.

Decide to not complain for a day.

Didn't see an idea that you liked above? That is okay. Write out a good deed that you plan on doing today so you can let your light shine!

Prayer time: Thank God for sending Jesus to live in you and shine through you. Pray also that God would give you the courage you need to let your light shine every day.