

## The Gift of Light at Christmas

1 John 1:5 (NASB) "This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all."

John 12:46 (NLT) "I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark."

### First: The dark days of **DISAPPOINTMENT**.

Job 30:26 (CEV) "When I beg for relief and light, all I receive are disaster and darkness."

### Second: The dark days of **DISTRESS**.

Psalms 22:2 (NLT) "Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night you hear my voice, but I find no relief."

### Third: The dark days of **DOUBT**.

John 12:35 (HCSB) "The light will be with you only a little longer. Walk while you have the light so that darkness doesn't overtake you. The one who walks in darkness doesn't know where he's going."

### Fourth: Dark days of **DEPRESSION**.

Lamentations 3:19-20 (HCSB) "Remember my affliction and my homelessness, the wormwood and the poison. I continually remember [them] and have become depressed."

Psalms 88:18 (NLT) "You have taken away my companions and loved ones. Darkness is my closest friend."

2 Samuel 22:29 (NLT) "O Lord, you are my lamp. The Lord lights up my darkness."

## HOW CAN JESUS DISPEL MY DARKNESS?

### 1. He **ENCOURAGES** me when I'm disappointed.

Psalms 34:18 (NLT) "The Lord is near to those who are discouraged, he saves those who have lost all hope."

Matthew 1:23 (NASB) "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."

Hebrews 13:5b (HCSB) "For He Himself has said, I will never leave you or forsake you."

### 2. He **STRENGTHENS** me when I'm distressed.

Philippians 4:13 (Amp) "I have the strength for all things in Christ who empowers me. I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me."

Psalms 23:4 (NLT) "Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me."



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### 3. He will **GUIDE** me when I'm doubtful.

John 8:12 (NLT) "Jesus said, I am the Light of the world. So if you follow me, you won't be stumbling through darkness, for living light will flood your path."

Psalms 119:105 (NLT) "By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path."

### 4. He will **CHANGE** me when I'm depressed.

Ephesians 5:13 (NASB) "But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light."

Ephesians 5:9 (NLT) "For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true."

John 1:9 (NASB) "There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man."

1 John 1:5 (NASB) "This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all."

1 John 2:8 (NLT) "The darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in."

#### Application:

What types of dark days do you face during this time of year?

- Dark days of disappointment
- Dark days of distress
- Dark days of doubt
- Dark days of depression

How do you deal with the dark days when they come descend upon you?

What do you need most in your life right now?

- Encouragement
- Strength
- Guidance
- Change

As you navigate through this season and through the coming year what light will you bring to this darkened world?

- Hope
- Mercy
- Joy
- Grace
- Peace

What has God revealed to you this morning that will require your full surrender?

What will you do to obey what God has shown you?

Memory Verse: 1 John 1:5 (NASB) "This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all."

