

WHY ON EARTH

JOHN 12:44-50

To Shine the Light

I. Jesus came to shine the light on God's _____ in a dark world.

And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me." vv. 44-45

_____ **to Jesus's life in order to know God's character.**

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature ... Hebrews 1:3a

II. Jesus came to shine the light on God's _____ to save the world.

"I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world." vv. 46-47

_____ **in Jesus who wants to save you, not condemn you.**

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

III. Jesus came to shine the light on God's _____ to judge the world.

"The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me." vv. 48-50

JESUS → BELIEF ▶ LIGHT ▶ GODLY BEHAVIOR ▶ TRANSFORMATION ▶ LIFE
→ UNBELIEF ▶ DARKNESS ▶ UNGODLY BEHAVIOR ▶ CONDEMNATION ▶ DEATH

_____ **with Jesus in light of His promises.**

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:5-7

WHY ON EARTH

HOME GROUP STUDY

1. In what ways is this particular Christmas season less joyful?

2. Read John 12:44-50. By what authority does Jesus speak these words? Why is it so important that He point this out?

3. In verse 45 Jesus says that *“whoever sees me sees him who sent me.”* How is that possible? In what ways is Jesus *“the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature”* (Heb 1:3)?

4. Just prior to this passage, Jesus’ soul was troubled and many people did not believe in Him (see John 12:27-43). Why do you think He “cried out” in verse 44, and how does that reflect God’s purpose of saving the world?

5. How do the facts that Jesus felt troubled and was rejected by others encourage your trust in Him alone?

6. How did the study and sermon speak to your recent struggles during this particular season? How can your glimpses of God through the person of Jesus cause you to praise Him and rejoice today, and into the next week or month, despite your circumstances?

“God is looking for broken men who have judged themselves in the light of the cross of Christ. When He wants anything done, He takes up men who have come to the end of themselves, whose confidence is not in themselves, but in God.”

HARRY IRONSIDE

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here’s a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. They’re your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

TEXT “CCBCGROW” TO 94090 FOR WAYS TO GROW IN THE NEW YEAR. We want to help you continue walking with Jesus and growing in your faith in 2021. To learn about upcoming Bible studies and discipleship opportunities, text “CCBCGrow” to 94090.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVE WITH YOUR CHRIST CHAPEL FAMILY. We’re getting ready for a very special Christmas Eve at Christ Chapel and we want you to be a part of it in person or online! In-person worship services are happening at 3, 4:30, 6 and 9:30 p.m. at the Fort Worth Campus and we’ll be streaming at the Internet Campus at those same times, too. Who do you know who needs some hope and joy this Christmas, or a place to celebrate with community? Invite someone to join us this week! You can learn more, plus get your tickets and Kids Care reservations taken care of at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

COUPLES, GIVE THE GIFT OF RE|ENGAGE THIS CHRISTMAS. This year has had no shortage of tension and challenges. Whether you’re feeling the strains of 2020, struggling through bigger issues or just ready to give your marriage some love and care in 2021, give re|engage to each other this Christmas. It’s an experience that can strengthen and even transform your marriage. Go to www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage to learn more and register.

THRIVE IN THE NEW YEAR. If 2020 has brought up certain fears, struggles or issues, Thrive may be your next right thing in 2021. It’s a discipleship experience that helps you get to the roots of sin and suffering in your life and embrace the freedom found only in Jesus and His redemption. Find out more about the experience, which includes daily study, a small group community and mentoring, and apply by Thursday, Dec. 31 at www.ccbcfamily.org/thrive.

THE YOUNG ADULT RESIDENCY IS TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2021. Do you know a soon-to-be college grad who’s figuring out what’s next? Tell them about the Young Adult Residency! It’s a 10-month program all about discovering your calling, developing your gifts and deploying for ministry (in a church or any other field of work). Get the details at www.ccbcfamily.org/yar.

CONSIDERING END-OF-YEAR GIVING? Centered on Family Focused, our 2020-2021 ministry vision, this year’s end-of-year giving is all about supporting nuclear families, defending our faith and extending our church family. Read more about the specific initiatives and give an offering at www.ccbcfamily.org/give2020.

CELEBRATE ADVENT ONLINE WITH US. “Who Is This Jesus?” is an online Advent devotional written to help usher you into the Christmas season. New every Monday through Friday through Christmas Day, each day we’re getting to know Jesus better by studying one of His unique names. Join us at www.ccbcfamily.org/advent.

IF YOU’D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—just text “CCBCFW” to 77977 to get started.