

“Teachable Moments”

OBJECTIVE: The lighting of this fifth candle on Christmas Eve will help your family focus on opening GOD’S gift of His Son; helping us to see the light and accept this light into our own lives all for the glory of God, the Father.

☀ **Simple Truths:** Our focus in this lesson is JESUS, the Light of the World who is a PERSON who came with a PURPOSE and is to be a treasured POSSESSION of those He created.

☀ **Activity Pages:** The Parent pages (Simple Truths, Suggested Advent Activities) will help you navigate these learning times, but the actual activity pages for your children contain a lot of information as well. Remember, this is just a beginning; in your reading of God’s Word you will no doubt find additional info to include in future years. Time to finish coloring the advent wreath and adding the final page (CHRIST) connected to the chain on the wall-art.

#1 - PRAYER TIME

STORY TIME: The Light of the World

#2 - GOD’S Gift to Me

Follow the LIGHT

#3 - Light in the Darkness

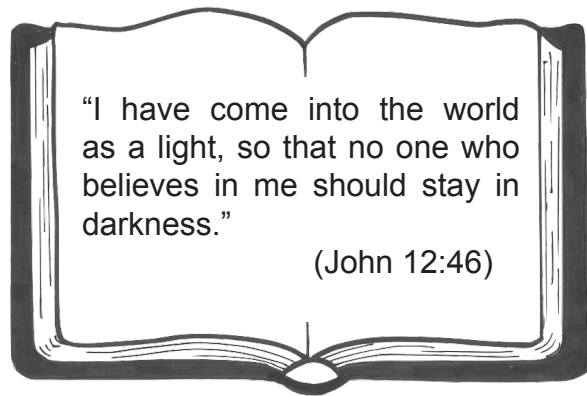
☀ **Enjoy singing together:** *Silent Night! Holy Night!*

☀ **Memory Verse: John 12:46** Memorizing this verse will provide a reminder to us of the reason we are celebrating this season. Christ Himself states very clearly His purpose for coming to the earth in obedience to His Father.

(Permission granted to make extra copies of coloring or game pages for other children in the family as needed.)



The Light of the World



5th Candle: Christmas Eve

TRUTH SEEKER



ACTIVITY

Written & Illustrated
by Anita Brandon

Simple Truths

1

JESUS is the Light of the World

How do we know this is true?

--GOD revealed His plan **through the prophets**.

ISAIAH, for example:

*"The people **walking in darkness** have seen a great light; on those living in the **land of the shadow of death** a light has dawned."* (Isaiah 9:2)

--GOD revealed His plan **through a witness**: JOHN the Baptist

Concerning John the Baptist:

*"There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through Him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. **The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.**"* (John 1:6-9)

--GOD revealed His plan **through JESUS, Himself**.

*"**I have come into the world as a light**, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness."* (John 12:46)

*"**I am the light of the world**. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12)

2

This Light has a Purpose

What was the purpose of this Light?

--Bring light to the darkness of sinful hearts, resulting in LIFE, not DEATH eternally.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 - NIV)

*"For the wages of sin is death, but the **gift of God is eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)

--For human beings to become a part of God's family by believing in Him and His plan.

"Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:11 & 12)

--To bring glory and praise to God the Father.

*"... a people belonging to God, that you may **declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light**."* (1 Peter 2:9)

How was this purpose accomplished?

--God's purpose was completely accomplished through the obedience of JESUS, the light of the world:

BORN into the human race.

LIVED and DIED in our place (for our sin).

RESURRECTED and returned to His Father

--JESUS CHRIST returning to rule and reign on the earth is yet to be done at God's appointed time.

3

This Light is a Gift to Me.

Should I accept God's gift?

--If you were offered the best gift ever, wouldn't you accept it. It can not be fully described or understood, but we should thank God for giving it to us.

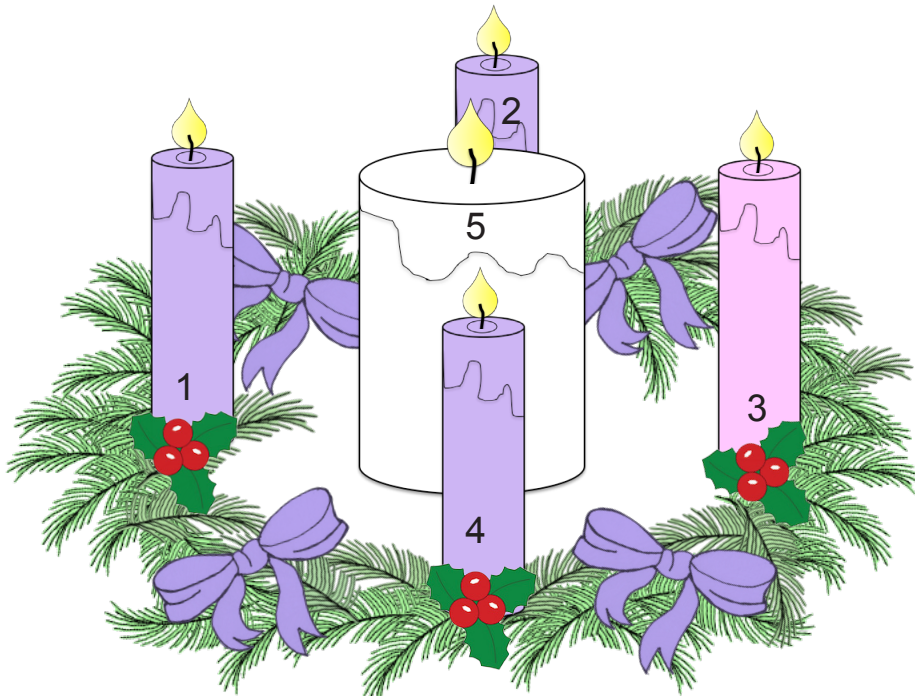
"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Cor. 9:15)

Does God want me to tell others about this gift?

--YES, we can bring glory to God by letting His light shine through us so other may see and come to Him, too.

"... let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matt. 5:16)

Suggested Activities for the ADVENT Celebration



The ADVENT WREATH is a circular garland of evergreens representing **eternity**. On that wreath are 4 or 5 candles typically arranged. Each represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the LORD, Jesus Christ. One candle is lit on each Sunday of advent, and the 5th candle on Christmas Eve.

With each week of ADVENT, you and your family can focus on the celebration elements mentioned here. Be as creative as you wish by adding other carols to sing, additional scriptures appropriate to the event represented by each candle, or invite another family to share with you in the celebration. The following lessons will focus on the subsequent candles and together you can prepare your hearts and minds to enjoy the true "Reason for the Season." May GOD be glorified!

Order of Candles



Sunday, NOV. 29: "**Prophet's Candle**"

Focus: HOPE

Scripture: Jere. 23:5 & 6; Isaiah 9:2,6 & 7

Carol to sing: ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus***



Sunday, DEC. 5: "**Bethlehem's Candle**"

Focus: LOVE

Scripture: Luke 1:26-31; Luke 2:1,3-5; Matt. 1:20-24;
Micah 5:2; Gal. 4:4; I John 4:10

Carol to sing: ***O Come to My Heart***
O Little Town of Bethlehem



Sunday, DEC. 12: "**Shepherd's Candle**"

Focus: JOY

Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:10-11

Carol to sing: ***Joy to the World***

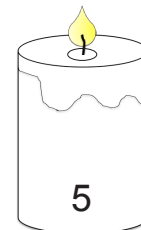


Sunday, DEC. 19: "**Angel's Candle**"

Focus: PEACE

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6 & 7; Luke 2:8-14

Carol to sing: ***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear***



Christmas Eve - DEC. 24: "**Christ's Candle**"

Focus: LIGHT

Scripture: John 12:46; Isaiah 9:2; John 1:9; John 8:12;
2 Cor. 4:6; I Peter 2:9

Carol to sing: ***Silent Night! Holy Night!***

REMEMBER, TRUTH SEEKERS-----

Ask God to guide your
study and help you
learn.



Activity Page #1

God continued to share this news about Jesus and why God sent Him. It is all in God's Big Story, the BIBLE.

When Jesus grew to be a man, he told people that He was the "light of the world" and they did not have to live in darkness anymore. The Bible tells us that if we believe that Jesus is the "light of God" then He will help us to learn about who God really is and how He wants us to live so that we can please God.

God also wants the "light of Jesus" to shine through us to people around us that do not know about God. This "light" is seen by the good things that we do and say; this brings glory or praise to God.

It is important to remember that if we want to "live in the light", not darkness, then we need to follow the truth of God's Word, the BIBLE. Follow means---- to Obey.



The Light of the World

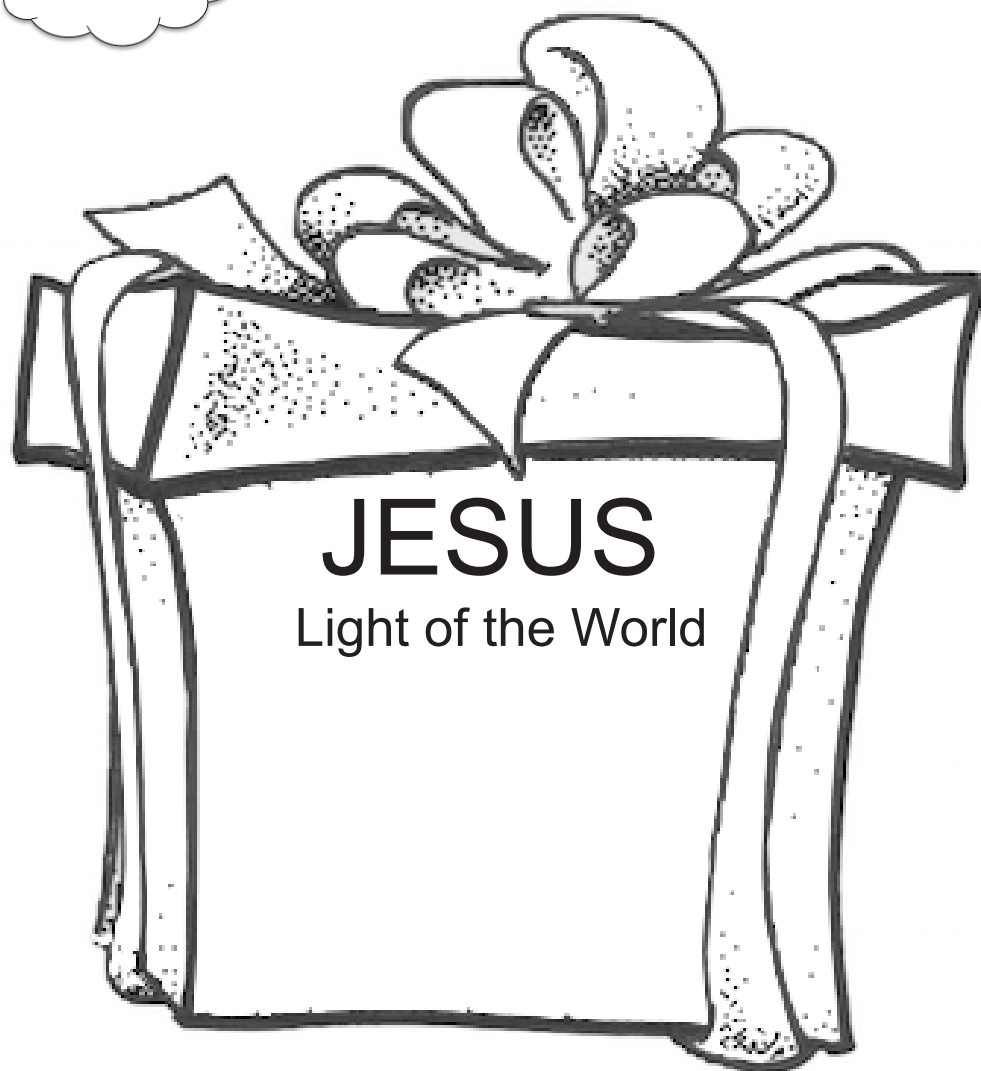
Opening & Accepting God's Gift

STORY TIME

I bet you like to open presents for Christmas. Well. . .the best gift we could ever receive is the gift of God's only Son-- JESUS. Remember how the angels, God's messengers, came to the shepherds to share the "Good News" of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem? They were so excited that they hurried to Bethlehem to find this child that would some day bring peace on the earth.

GOD'S Gift to Me

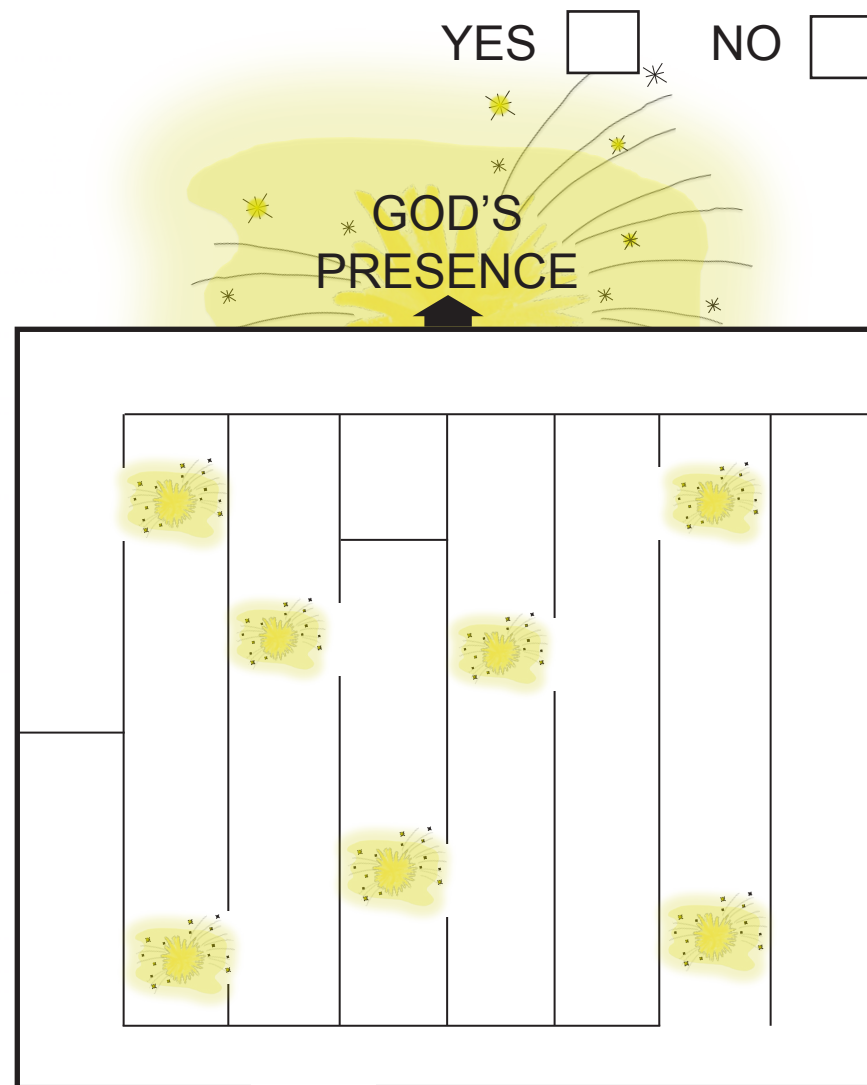
Color me.



Follow *the Light*

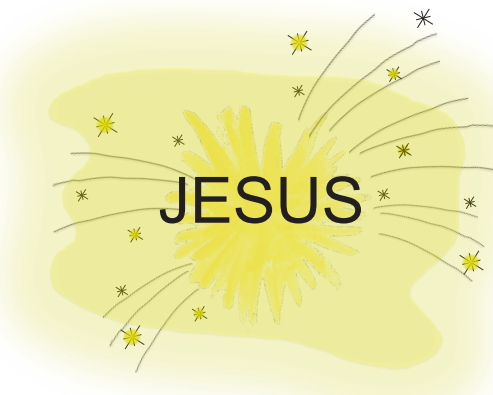
As God's created beings, could we find God and live in His presence if we wanted to?

YES ☐ NO ☐



Start Here
(Follow the light)

The words of this beloved carol helps to reveal the wonder, the miracle of God's gift of light offered to the human race in His Son--JESUS.



Light in the Darkness

Parents: Take your children into a room that can be darkened. Take a flashlight(s). This can be an opportunity for your children to experience this concept of "light in the darkness" and stimulate a Q/A time relating to JESUS coming into our world of darkness, bringing the "light of life" to us.

Suggested Questions (for starters)

With the lights off:

Can we see where we are?

Can we see where to go?

How do you feel about being in the dark?

With flashlights on:

Now can you see where you are?

Can you see where to go?

Are you thankful for the light?



"Christ's Candle" - LIGHT



Silent Night! Holy Night!

Words: : Joseph Mohr
Music: Franz Gruber

5

B \flat F7

Si___ - lent night! Ho___ - ly night! All is calm,
Si___ - lent night! Ho___ - ly night! Son of God.

4 B \flat E \flat Cm7 B \flat

all is bright 'Round yon vir___ - gin moth - er and child.
love's pure light, Ra - diant beams___ from Thy ho - ly face

7 E \flat Cm B \flat Gm F F7

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
with the dawn of re - deem___ - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy

10 Gm B \flat F7 B \flat

peace___; sleep___ in heav - en - ly peace___
birth,___; Je___ - sus Lord at Thy birth. ___