

Gathering

LIGHT

During Christmas season we see many beautiful light decorations, though not everyone celebrates Jesus, the light of the world. Many seem to go through the holidays without a clear sense of direction or joy, still in darkness. Discovering the light of God is like when you're in place and there's a total black out; then, someone lights a match or a candle and what a difference that little light makes!

Matthew 4:16 says "*the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*"

Matthew is echoing Isaiah's prophecy regarding Jesus. God gave us His son to save us from the effects of spiritual darkness. In the land of the shadow of death, there's despair, uncertainty and ultimately death. Darkness is scary; it makes us vulnerable. While in darkness, we don't know where to go or the dangers that can be close to us. Light brings clear direction. It guides us to the paths to follow.

As light, Jesus guides us to the truth, the way and the life eternal. In Him there's no confusion, not one trace of darkness. However, it is in the darkness of society that we are to bring the light of salvation Jesus gives. It's letting Jesus' light shine in us and through us!

Perhaps this Christmas season, as you put up the lights to decorate can gain a new meaning for you as you reflect on the impact Jesus' light has had both in you and through you, to all around.

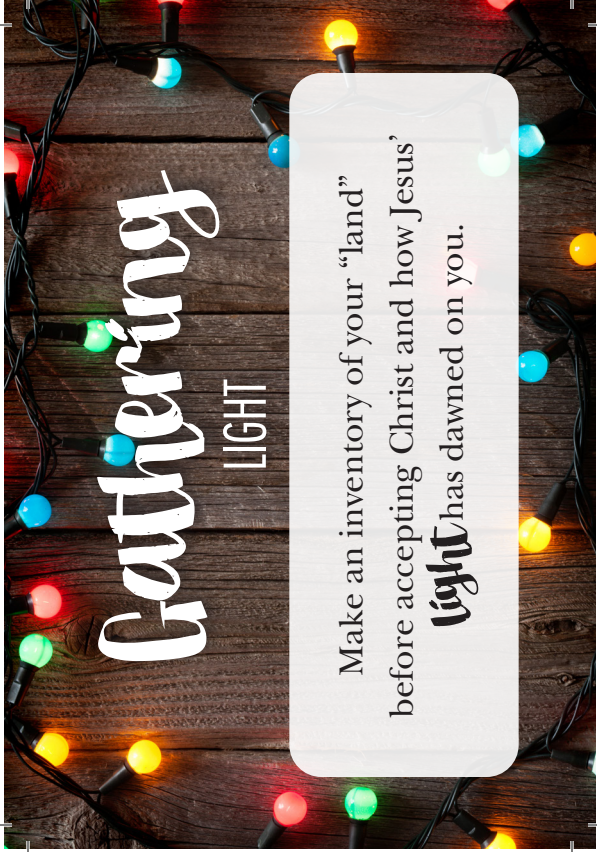
After reading Scripture consider these questions

- Make an inventory of your "land" before accepting Christ and how Jesus' light has dawned on you.
- Are there still areas of darkness in your life? What can you do with them based on today's scripture?
- How would you describe the meaning of living our lives following His light?
- What are some practical ways you can share the light of God with others still in darkness this season?

Matthew 4:16

Complete your monthly report and turn it in to the Corps Officer.

Gathering



Gathering

LIGHT

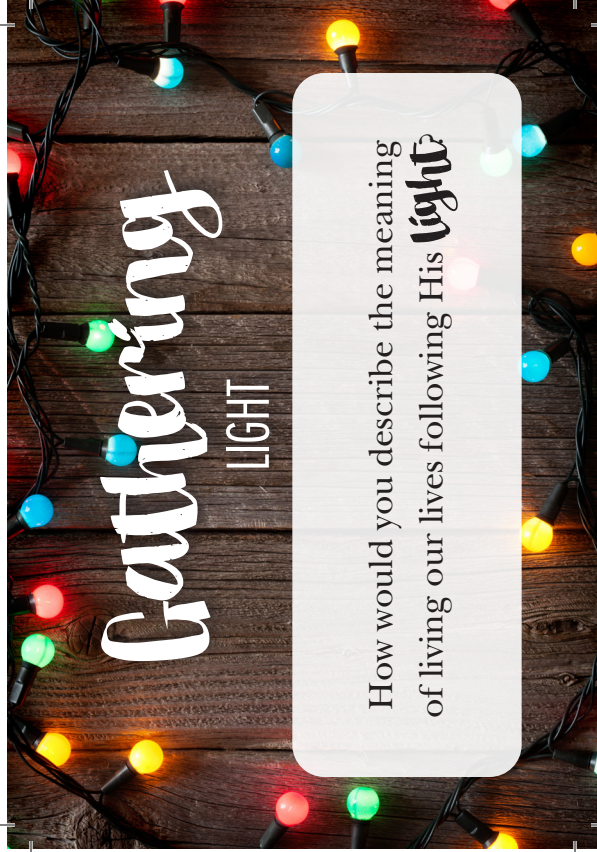
Make an inventory of your “land”
before accepting Christ and how Jesus’
light has dawned on you.



Gathering

LIGHT

Are there still areas of **darkness** in
your life? What can you do with them
based on today’s **scripture**?



Gathering

LIGHT


How would you describe the meaning
of living our lives following His **light**?



Gathering


LIGHT

What are some practical ways you can
share the **light** of God with others
still in darkness this **season**?



*The people living in darkness
have seen a great light: on those
living in the land of the shadow
of death a light has dawned.*

MATTHEW 4:16



*The people living in darkness
have seen a great light: on those
living in the land of the shadow
of death a light has dawned.*

MATTHEW 4:16



A real encounter with Jesus' light will transform your life forever with a new identity, purpose and direction. As you read the following verses, pay attention to the changes mentioned and how they apply to you today.

ACTS 9:1-22

What were some of the things that changed course in Saul's life after he encountered the transforming light of Jesus? How do those changes relate to your personal walk of faith?

LUKE 19:1-9

In this verse, we read the story of Zacchaeus. What insight do we gain from Zacchaeus' response to the light of salvation? From Jesus' words to define Zacchaeus' new lineage as "son of Abraham"?

1 PETER 2:9-10

Peter states four elements that define what it means to be in His light. Share what these meant to the believers of the time and what it means to you today.



A real encounter with Jesus' light will transform your life forever with a new identity, purpose and direction. As you read the following verses, pay attention to the changes mentioned and how they apply to you today.

ACTS 9:1-22

What were some of the things that changed course in Saul's life after he encountered the transforming light of Jesus? How do those changes relate to your personal walk of faith?

LUKE 19:1-9

In this verse, we read the story of Zacchaeus. What insight do we gain from Zacchaeus' response to the light of salvation? From Jesus' words to define Zacchaeus' new lineage as "son of Abraham"?

1 PETER 2:9-10

Peter states four elements that define what it means to be in His light. Share what these meant to the believers of the time and what it means to you today.

