Sermon Outline

Key verse

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

John 1:9

Jesus lights the way for those living in darkness

1. The light of Jesus gives joy

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress.

Isaiah 9:1

2. The light of Jesus gives sight

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light

Isaiah 9:2a

3. The light of Jesus gives eternal life

On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. Isaiah 9:2b



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Opening Thought

The Christmas season reminds us of God's faithfulness to bring peace, hope, healing, and life to a lost and dying world. This Christmas we will be exploring the good news of the Messiah from prophecies in the book of Isaiah. Today we learned that Jesus is the light of the world who shines on all people.

Ice breakers

- Have you ever been lost in the dark or had a flashlight fail?
- Has your imagination ever gotten the best of you in the dark?

Dig Deeper

- READ Isaiah 8:21-22. What do you think Isaiah meant by saying that people would "see... only darkness?"
- READ Isaiah 9:1. How were Zebulun and Naphtali humbled?
- READ Matthew 4:12-17. Galilee was known as a
 backwards place and the people there were the Israelite
 version of a redneck (in John 1 Nathanael asks if anything
 good comes out of Nazareth and in Matthew 26 Peter is
 recognized by his accent), but according to Isaiah 9:1
 Galilee will be honored. How so?

Discussion

- Where in your life are you facing a dark situation right now?
- John shared this morning that the light of Jesus gives us joy. Can you think of an example from your own life?

Closing

- For further study, check out the study resource 125 Prophecies About the Messiah in the Book of Isaiah.
- Ask the Lord to shine on you in this season. Remember that the birth of Christ means that light has entered into our dark world and he gives you strength to walk through dark times.