

The Light of the World

PRESCHOOL LESSON



Theme: Jesus is the one true light. We are His witnesses.

Scripture: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Memory Verse: "In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind." John 1:4

Get Ready: Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

The Children's Sermon:

You'll Need:

- **A strand of Christmas lights**
- **Construction paper**
- **A pen**
- **Tape**
- **A flashlight**

Get Ready: Cut four large circles from the construction paper to symbolize light bulbs. Write each of these words on separate construction paper light bulbs: hope, love, joy, peace. Tape these randomly on the walls around the room.

Do This:

Turn down the classroom lights, and plug in the Christmas lights so they light the room.

SAY: Our Bible reading for today tells us that God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about a light that would light the world. Where are places you use lights?

Encourage preschoolers to shout out places they use lights, such as rooms in their homes, night lights at night, or flashlights outside at night.

SAY: We need lights to help us see what's around us. And lights like the sun in the sky can help us feel warm, awake, and joyful. John the Baptist was telling about a person who the Bible calls "the Light of the world," because that person brings joy and warmth to our hearts and lives. That person is Jesus! Let's do something to help us think about how Jesus is a light in our lives.

Turn on the flashlight, and explain there are construction paper light bulbs around the room. Have kids take short turns shining the flashlight on the walls, looking for the light bulbs. When they illuminate one with the flashlight, stop and read what's on the light bulb. Ask kids to tell what the words mean, and then confirm the meaning:

- Love is feeling warm and caring.
- Joy is true, deep happiness.
- Peace is feeling calm and trusting in God.
- Hope is excitement for something to come.

SAY: As the Light of the world, Jesus brings us love, joy, peace, and hope. John told everyone about Jesus because he wanted everyone to believe. This time of year, we see lots of Christmas lights that help us remember Jesus is the one true light in our hearts and in our lives. Let's pray and thank God for Jesus--the Light of the world.

PRAY: Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus to this world. We're thankful for the light He brings to our lives--the hope, joy, love, and peace He brings us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

Bible Memory Verse

"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." John 1:6-7

You'll Need:

- **Battery-operated candles - one per child**

Do This:

- Give each child a candle.
- Have kids form a line.
- Lead kids in marching around the room, holding up their lights. As they march, lead kids in a call and repeat chant of the verse. For example, "There came a man (repeat), who was sent from God (repeat); his name was John (repeat)..."

SAY: Today we are going to learn more about John, who came to tell people about the truth of Jesus. John wasn't the light, he came to tell about the light.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- **A Bible**
- **Green construction paper**
- **Circle stickers in different colors**
- **White and yellow chalk**

Get Ready: Cut the green construction paper into large triangles to represent Christmas trees. Each child will need one triangle.

Do This:

- Give each child a construction paper Christmas tree.
- Explain that they'll be adding lights (circle stickers) to their trees whenever they hear the word "light" in the Bible verses.
- Read aloud John 1:6-8, encouraging kids to shout "light" to stop you whenever they hear "light" in the verses. After each occurrence, give each child one "light" sticker to add to their trees.
- Remind kids that John the Baptist came to tell about the light, and help people connect to the light--Jesus.
- Give each child some white or yellow chalk.
- Explain to kids that they'll draw the strand that connects the lights on their trees as they listen to the next verses. Tell kids they can draw when they hear the word "John."
- Read aloud John 1:22-28, replacing all the pronouns used for "John" with "John." Pause after each occurrence of his name so kids can use their chalk to draw a connecting line between two lights.

ASK:

- Why do you think John wanted to tell others about Jesus?
- Tell about someone you want to tell that Jesus is the light of the world.

SAY: God sent John to tell everyone about Jesus. God wants everyone to know and believe that Jesus is the light of the world. We can do what John did and tell others about Jesus, too.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

“Lighthouses” Video Lesson

You’ll Need:

- [“Lighthouses”](#) video lesson
- Something to play the video

Do This:

Show them the video.

ASK:

- What did you learn about lighthouses?
- What are some ways Jesus might light up your life?

Star Snacks

You'll Need:

- **Star-shaped cookies - one per child**
- **Cookie icing**
- **Sprinkles**
- **Plates - one per child**
- **Plastic spoons**

Do This:

SAY: A star is a light in the night. It might make us think of Jesus, who lights the whole world with his love. Let's make star snacks, as we think about how Jesus is the one true light.

- Give each child a star-shaped cookie on a plate.
- Help kids ice their cookies using plastic spoons.
- Encourage kids to decorate their stars with sprinkles.
- As kids work, remind them that Jesus is the one true light who came to bring light into the world.

Follow the Light

You'll Need:

- **A flashlight**

Do This:

- Remind kids that Jesus is the one true light.

- Explain that kids will be playing a crawling game.
- Have kids follow the one light (the flashlight) around the room, as you playfully shine it in various directions.
- If time allows, let children take turns shining the light.

ASK:

- **What was it like following the light?**
- **What are some ways you can follow Jesus, the one true light?**

SAY: Jesus is the only true light. He came to show us how to be friends with God.

We follow Him!

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

Candle Light Craft

You'll Need:

- **Paper towel tubes - one for every four kids**
- **Construction paper in various colors**
- **Scissors**
- **Glue sticks**
- **Red, orange, or yellow tissue paper**

Get Ready: Cut the paper towel tubes into fourths. Cut construction paper strips to fit around the paper towel tubes. Write "Jesus" on each paper strip.

Do This:

To make the candle light crafts, have kids follow these steps:

- Give each child a paper towel tube piece.
- Have kids pick a paper strip to cover their paper towel tubes. Help them glue these around the outside of the paper towel tubes.
- Read aloud "Jesus" now wrapped around their paper towel tubes.
- Have kids stuff tissue paper into the top of their tubes to make a flame.

SAY: There is one true light and His name is Jesus. He is the light of the world and we are to tell others about Him. Keep your candle in your room as a reminder that Jesus is always with you, lighting your way.

Light Prayers

You'll Need:

- **Battery-operated candles - one per child**
- **Slips of paper - one per child**
- **A pen**
- **Tape**

Do This:

- Give each child a candle.
- Explain that Jesus is a light in their lives. Have them turn on their candles.
- Explain that people who do not know Jesus do not have that light in their lives. Have kids turn off their candles.
- Ask kids to name someone they want to tell about Jesus. Write these names on kids' slips of paper and have kids tape them to their candles as a reminder.
- Explain that when they tell others about Jesus, they'll find out Jesus could be a light in their lives, too. Have kids turn the candles back on.

ASK:

- **What good things might you tell others about Jesus?**
- **How will people's lives be better with Jesus?**

SAY: Let's pray for the people who don't have the light of Jesus in their lives yet.

PRAY: Dear God, we learned today that Jesus is the one true light. We want others to hear about Jesus, too, so they can have Jesus' light in their lives. Help us tell others about Him. In Jesus' name, amen.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

Time to Praise God

You'll Need:

- Song: "The Light of the World Is Jesus"

[Words and Music](#) (pdf)

[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

- Song: "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

[Words and Music](#) (pdf)

[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

Do This:

SAY: Jesus is the one true light and we can help shine His light by telling others about Him. Let's sing about Jesus now.

Lead children in singing "The Light of the World Is Jesus" and "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

If You Have Extra Time...

Use these activity sheets to fill in any time and keep kids learning.

- [Light of the World Coloring Page](#)

Complete Supply List:

- [A strand of Christmas lights](#)
- [Construction paper](#)
- [Scissors](#)

- [Pens](#) - one per child
- [Tape](#)
- [A flashlight](#)
- [Battery-operated candles](#) - one per child
- A Bible
- Green construction paper
- [Circle stickers in different colors](#)
- [White and yellow chalk](#)
- "Lighthouses" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- Star-shaped cookies - one per child
- [Cookie icing](#)
- [Sprinkles](#)
- [Plates](#) - one per child
- [Plastic spoons](#)
- [Paper towel tubes](#) - one for every four kids
- [Red, orange, or yellow tissue paper](#)
- Slips of paper - one per child

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The Light of the World

AT HOME LESSON

Theme: Jesus is the one true light. We are His witnesses.

Scripture: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Get Ready: Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

The Children's Sermon:

You'll Need:

- **A strand of Christmas lights**
- **Construction paper**
- **Scissors**
- **Pens - one per child**
- **Tape**

Get Ready: Cut circles from the construction paper to symbolize light bulbs. Make them large enough so kids can write a word or two on them.

Do This:

Turn down the lights, and plug in the Christmas lights so they light the room.

SAY: Our Bible reading for today tells us that God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light--Jesus--so that everyone would believe. John wasn't the light. He only came to tell others about the light. Jesus is the one true light, who gives light to everyone. Let's think about lights in our lives to help us think about that.

ASK:

- **When do you need light or what do you need light for?** Encourage kids to try to work together to name a use for light for every bulb on the Christmas strand.

At this time of year, we see lights everywhere that remind us of the coming of Jesus, the true light that John told about. Turn and tell a neighbor in one sentence about the coolest Christmas lights you've seen. Allow time.

Those lights can help us remember that Jesus is the one true light in our hearts and in our lives. Jesus brought light into the darkness of this world. Think of a way Jesus brings light into your heart and life, and write a word to tell what you're thinking on a construction paper light bulb.

Give kids construction paper light bulbs, and allow time. As they finish, have them tape the paper light bulbs between the real light bulbs on the strand.

Let's pray and thank God for Jesus--the light of the world.

PRAY: Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to this world. We're thankful for the light He brings to our lives--the hope, joy, love, and peace He brings us. In Jesus' name, amen.

"Lighthouses" Video Lesson

You'll Need:

- ["Lighthouses"](#) video lesson
- Something to play the video

Do This:

Show them the video.

ASK:

- What is the main purpose of the lighthouses?
- What is the main purpose of Jesus, the light of the world?

Candle Snacks

You'll Need:

- Ice cream cones - one per child
- Popcorn

Get Ready: Ahead of time, divide popped popcorn into individual bags.

Do This:

SAY: Today we learned that Jesus is the one true light and we are to be witnesses to the Light. As we make today's candle snack, we'll go around the table and each share one thing we love about Jesus.

- Give each child an ice cream cone and their individual bag of popcorn.
- Have kids pour the popcorn into the cone until it comes out over the top like a flame.
- While the kids eat their snacks, invite them to share one thing they love about Jesus.

Light Prayers

You'll Need:

- [“The Light of the World”](#) handout - one per child
- Glow-in-the-dark glue
- Markers

Do This:

- Give each child a “Light of the World” handout.
- Have kids write their names on one of the candles.
- Explain that today they are going to pray that God would give them the courage to share about Jesus with others.
- Have kids write the name of someone they want to share Jesus with on the second candle.
- Explain that Jesus brings light to their lives. Have them add glow-in-the-dark glue to the flame on their candles.
- Explain that when they share about Jesus with others, they share Jesus’ light with that person, too. Have them fold the paper inward on the line so the glue on the one candle transfers some to the other candle.
- Once glue has spread to both candles, have kids open the paper.
- Test the glow-in-the-dark effect to show kids the light spreads when they share about Jesus.

PRAY: Dear God, we learned today that Jesus is the one true light. Give us opportunities to share Jesus’ light with those we named today. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Complete Supply List:

- [A strand of Christmas lights](#)

- [Construction paper](#)
- [Scissors](#)
- [Pens](#) - one per child
- [Tape](#)
- "Lighthouses" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- [Ice cream cones](#) - one per child
- [Popcorn](#)
- "The Light of the World" handout - one per child
- [Glow-in-the-dark glue](#) - one per child
- [Markers](#)

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