



THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

Jesus is our light in the darkness.

BIBLE

Luke 2:8–20; Matthew 2:1–12; Isaiah 9:2; John 3:16

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Last week we talked about how Isaiah predicted a great light that would one day shine on people walking in darkness. This week we saw that light *break through* when Jesus was born. Angels lit up the sky for shepherds, and God used a star to guide wise men from far away. The Christmas story reminds us that the light of Jesus is for everyone, everywhere — and encountering Him changes everything.

Let's Break the Ice + Discipleship Moment Follow Up

- Last week we talked about praying in a dark room and thanking Jesus for the light He brings. Did anyone do that? How did it go?
- If you were a shepherd or a wise man, which role would you rather have in the Christmas story? Why?
- What's the most surprising way someone has ever gotten your attention?
- Have you ever felt "overlooked" or "like you weren't important? What was that like?

Bible Study:

- Read Together: As a group, read Luke 2:10-11 NIV and Matthew 2:10-11 NIV
 - *Telos Bible Page Numbers: Luke 2:10-11 (pg 999); Matthew 2:10-11 (pg 937)*

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think God chose shepherds — some of the least valued people of the time — as the first to hear about Jesus' birth?
 - What does it say about God that He also led people from another culture and religion (the Wise Men) to Jesus?
 - How does this story challenge the idea that people need to "have it all together" before they come to God?
 - Where do you see "darkness" in your world — either personally or around you?
 - Read John 3:16 — how does this verse tie together the shepherds' experience and the Wise Men's journey?
-

Make it Real:

- The shepherds responded immediately. The Wise Men traveled for months. Which response do you relate to more — and why?
-

Prayer

Share Requests:

- *Ask for any prayer requests or praises to celebrate together.*

Group Prayer:

- Encourage students to thank Jesus for bringing His light into our darkness.

Discipleship Moment:

Share the Light: Identify *one place of darkness* in your weekly routine — a conversation, a relationship, a class, a habit — and intentionally bring light into it.

This could look like:

- Choosing honesty where you've been hiding
- Encouraging someone who's discouraged
- Showing integrity where others cheat or cut corners
- Praying for someone silently while you're with them
- Inviting someone to next week's gathering or to Christmas Eve services

Next week, share what step you took and what light looked like in that space.