



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

John 1:1-4

Hope for the holidays: Life from Light

Winter can be a great time. Skiing, skating, and winter sports can put a smile on your face as you tear up the slopes.

Winter can also be a tough time, especially in the north. The sun is often hidden away behind clouds. The wind blows and beats down on you. You're stuck inside to get away from the tough conditions outside. Some people even suffer with SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder).

For many people Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. It's a time for the celebration of Jesus and so many other gifts from God. We celebrate with parties, concerts, and special worship services.

For others, it is a time of stress and frustration. Stress and frustration from all the busyness. Stress and frustration from the tension that exists in relationships. At a time when there should be peace on earth, peace is often missing. We may end up suffering from SSD (Seasonal Spiritual Disorder).

People get SAD because the sun is hidden. The same sun that makes plants grow is the sun that makes us alive to thrive.

People get SSD because they have hidden themselves from the Son. Whether by busyness or by distraction, Light from the Son is hidden from them.

Come to Jesus. Come to the manger with the shepherds. Come to worship with the Wise Men. Come, wonder and ponder with Mary.

There in the manger is God, the one who made all things. There in the manger is God, the one who formed you just as you are and just as he wanted you to be. There in the manger is God, the one who rules all things; yes, though he hardly looks like a King, he really is. There in the manger is the one who gives life because he is the Light.

Come stand in the Light! Come bask in his glory! The Son came to give us life by his death. The Son came to set us free by taking our sins on himself. The Son came to give us his perfection as our very own through faith. The Son came to help us in temptation by walking at our side through them. He gets it. He's been there. The Son came to give us access to the Father's throne so that we can get help in just the right way at just the right time. The Son came to shine on us with all his love and glory so that we might really live.

So, bask in his Light today. Your life comes from his Light.

Merry Christmas!

Prayer: Lord Jesus, your Light breathes life into my soul. You make me alive to live again. Your peace grants peace to my soul. Your forgiveness grants freedom to my conscience. Your presence gives me hope in dark times. Help me to bask in your glory today and find life in your Light. Amen.