



WEEK 2: I Am The Light - Salvation

S.O.A.P. METHOD

Open your life group time with prayer. This is only a guide - select the points you want to discuss. Read as a group and follow up with the scripture reading. Talk it over as a group. If it's helpful use the S.O.A.P. method.

- What **Scripture**? Which Scripture is speaking to me, challenging me, moving me?
 - What **Observation**? What am I seeing now that I wasn't seeing before? What new learning?
 - What **Application**? What is God leading me to live out and put into practice?
 - What **Prayer**? What will I pray? What new prayer will I embrace? Who will I pray for?
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CURRICULUM

Jesus brings light into our chaos and darkness

"When God began to create the heavens and the earth — the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters — God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night" (**Genesis 1:1-5, CEB**).

We may notice that God saw how good light was for the earth and all creation. We may also notice in the sequence of creation found in the rest of the chapter that this light is not the same as the sun mentioned as created on the fourth day. So what was this light that God called good and chased away the darkness from creation? We find clues as we read from the Gospel of John written thousands of years later: "Everything came into being through the Word (Jesus), and without the Word nothing came into being. What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light" (**John 1:3-5**).

If we continue to read, we see that the Apostle John tells us that John the Baptist testified that Jesus was the true light who has come to live among us. Just as the "Genesis light" chased away the darkness of the newly created world, the "incarnate light" of Jesus was needed to dispel the darkness of sin which had found its way into the human heart.

Scripture Reading:

- **Genesis 1**
- **John 1:1-18, 3:20-21, 8:12-30**
- **Psalms 139:12**

Discussion Questions

1. What connections or similarities do you find between Genesis 1 and John 1 regarding light and Jesus.
2. How has Jesus been light in your life?

Our need for a Savior is exposed by the light

In **Ephesians 2:1-3**, Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, diagnosed our problem. What God is telling us through Paul is that without rescue from a mighty Savior, we are dead in our sins (**v. 1**), dominated by the Devil (**v. 2**), and destined for hell (**v. 3**). We are lost, sick to death with sin, sabotaged by Satan, and sentenced to hell. This is a truth that Jesus shines light on in our life, we can't afford to ignore these truths. Ponder them deeply.

Scripture Reading:

- Ephesians 5:13

- Ephesians 2:1-3

Discussion Questions

1. Has there been a time in your life when you realized you were lost in your sin and cried out to God for rescue? How was that experience?