Series: Light of the World
Passage: John 1:4-13
Sunday: December 24, 2023

John 1:4-13 (ESV)

4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

1. If you read the beginning of John 1 you will find the phrase "in the beginning." Why does John begin his story of Jesus with this reference to the story of creation?

2. In the creation of the world, God challenges darkness by saying "Let there be light." How is God once again challenging darkness by sending Jesus into the world? How does the darkness respond to the coming of the new light (verses 5 and 9-10)?

3. In verse 4, what does the imagery of light and life tell us about Jesus? How have these impacted you?

4. In what ways does the darkness either fail to understand or actively resist the light of Jesus in our own lives and in the world around us?

5. How did John the Baptist bear witness about the light? How can we bear witness about the light to come in the second coming of Jesus?

6. Who were Jesus' own and why did they not receive him?

7. How do verses 12 and 13 impact your identity in Jesus?

8. How has this passage "enlightened" you to Jesus' light?