# The Light of the World

A 12 Days of Christmas Reflection on the Light Jesus Gives



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#### Introduction

ADVENT HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY STRIKING TO ME THIS YEAR. It is always a time for preparation for Christmas, but in a year with the challenges we have all faced in 2020, the contrast of the darkness of the coming winter and the light of Christmas are even more apparent than usual. As I prayed about a series for this year's 12 Days of Christmas Devotional, focusing on the picture of Jesus as the Light of the World seemed especially fitting.

The 12 Days of Christmas give us an opportunity to slow down and truly reflect on what the purpose of the Christmas miracle of Jesus's birth is. Over the coming days we will embark on a journey through Scripture and the pictures it gives us of our God lighting our way through the darkness we face throughout life.

Rather than rushing into a dark January with the decorations all taken down and the lights turned off, I hope you will join me in celebrating the Twelve Days of Christmas this year. Let that extra time of light and joy prepare us for a new year, ready and full of hope in the God who is our light every single year.

Timothy Butler
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St. Charles, Missouri

#### **Day 1: The Creator Returns to Stay**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

- John 1:1-5

In Genesis 2, we are told about how Adam and Eve walked in the garden with the Lord. Imagine actually walking with God in a perfect garden that He had created! Yet, their time there was cut abruptly short by their own decision. As Adam and Eve turned away from God and sin came into the world, the divide between the perfection of God and the sinfulness of human beings meant that the Creator now seemed largely distant and even frightening.

In our own lives, we experience times that God seems just as he did to Adam and Eve after they sinned. With the arrival of Christmas Day, we have time to slow down and reflect, to think about what did and did not happen during the year. As we think of our shortcomings and reflect on the one who can send choirs – and armies – of angels, it is not hard to start feeling distance from God. When we reflect on how He sees everything (Heb. 4:13), He does sometimes feel frightening.

The celebrate on Christmas Day is meant to cast away such a sense in our hearts. The Miracle of Christmas gives us the same peace the angels declared as they appeared to the shepherds, to Mary and to Joseph. Christmas is the declaration from the Lord that this distance we experience from Him is not to remain. With the coming of Jesus, we are told the One who *is* God and who created everything we see – including ourselves! – came into the world he created. The Creator again was with His creation, but this time to actually take on the darkness which had separated us from him.

PRAYER: Lord, thank you for not allowing the separation caused by our failings to keep you far from us. As we celebrate Christmas Day this year, please help us to be reminded that we are celebrating how you have refused to allow us to be apart from you. Thank you for bringing your light into our lives even though we do not deserve it. We pray this in the precious name of Jesus, the light of the World, who brings that light to us. Amen.

## Day 2: The Majesty of the Creator

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

- Genesis 1:1-5

There is a risk in the familiarity of the Christmas story. We can lose sight of just how stunning the Creator coming into the darkness of our world really is. When we go back to the passage John clearly had in mind as he wrote the first chapter of his Gospel, the *scandal* of the Christmas miracle becomes apparent. It is that the One who would later face suffering and death was willing to set that process in motion even though He was the same one we read about in those first verses of Genesis.

Jesus was not some hero of old who sent out on a deadly quest to make his name go down in history. There have been plenty of people who have risked life and limb on a quest to "be remembered." Jesus is different. Jesus is the one who wrote history and created the world in which history takes place. He did not need to be born a human baby and He certainly did not need to die a very human death for us in order to "leave a legacy."

How can we even begin to imagine times when everything – literally everything we experience – did not exist? Yet, when that was the case, the Son was there and it was by Him simply speaking that the brush strokes of the universe were applied. The One who is the Light of the World authored the existence of light itself.

As we reflect on our journey about how Jesus has brought light into our world, we need to start by reflecting in wonder that He created all light – and everything that is lit by it. This is the One we celebrate on Christmas and this is the one who brings light to us in order that we might enjoy Him and experience His love.

PRAYER: Jesus, so often we miss how you are working and how the world shouts out the wonder of who you are. Thank you for loving us even when we are too preoccupied to see what you are doing. Help us to see the miracle of your love not just Christmas day, but every day. And let us show your love to the world so that others can see you, too. It is in your name that we pray. Amen.

#### Day 3: The Extinguished Light

The LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

- Genesis 3:23-24

Have you ever had the experience of giving a gift to someone only to see them misuse it and break it shortly thereafter? It is one thing to see someone be careless with stuff we value in general, but when it is something we had worked hard picking out and then gave to them, it stings even more.

God had not just picked out a place for human beings to live, He had crafted it from nothing that we might dwell there and know Him. Yet, much as people do throughout Scripture (and we do still fall into the pattern of doing today), Adam and Eve essentially snubbed their noses at God, distracted by the promise of something they thought was better than what God had intended for them.

Thousands of years later, as Jesus would dwell on this earth, many of those who heard of the Messiah's coming would likewise turn up their noses at Him. Herod heard the news and did his best to kill Him. The Pharisees and Sadducees did likewise and, in conjunction with the Roman authorities, ultimately succeed. All of these things happened, but Jesus continued to provide hope in the growing darkness. In fact, He used those efforts to kill the Him to save all of us who deserved the death He received.

We often extinguish glimmers of light that God gives us, preferring our own way and our own standards to those of God. But though we thumb our nose at Him, He still calls us to a life in His presence. We may obscure His work in our lives, but we can never actually extinguish His Light. As we reflect on the Christmas and prepare for a new year, may we see more clearly how God is working in our lives and rejoice in the precious gift He has given us.

PRAYER: Father, please forgive us when we miss the precious gifts you have given us. Forgive us as we afresh thumb our noses at what you are doing and turn to the things in this world we think will make us happier. Help us to see clearly what you are doing and through that clarity to be able to follow you more faithfully and experience your love that you give to us. In Jesus's Name we pray. Amen.

## Day 4: The Imposter

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

– Isaiah 5:20

We have all had those moments we watch as someone calls something good which is clearly wrong. Sometimes it really is clear cut. Sometimes we teeter back and forth, sensing something is wrong and yet wanting to believe others' justifications that the wrong being done is actually good because it will allegedly bring peace or help others.

The Apostle Paul reflected on those who do such things in 2 Cor. 11:14-15: "And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness."

As nice as it would be to think of "other people" who do these things, often we play games in our own heads justifying things we should know to be wrong. Each of us experiences damage to our moral compasses that comes from sin, none of us accurately see every place we trade light for darkness.

Every time we experience this as we observe others or look at ourselves, it points us to why we needed the Light of the World to come into the world. The miracle of Christmas is that the One who truly is Light comes into a world willing to label darkness as light. He comes to show us what light really looks like.

As we look at our homes and the beautiful Christmas lights we put up that shine in the darkness of winter, it is an opportunity to think of how the true Light came not to just to light a dark winter's day, but to light the darkness we experience in life, so that we might shine His light and experience His life.

How have we participated in mislabeling darkness as light, rather than shining Jesus's Light? Jesus is willing to shine in those areas in your life and my life, turning our lives into strands of Christmas lights far more beautiful than the ones on the most festive house you will see this year.

PRAYER: Father, thank you for sending your Son to bring us out of the darkness. Thank you for leading us out of the places where we call darkness light; thank you for protecting us when we experience others doing the same. As we reflect on Christmas this year, Lord, please help us to shine your true light into the world, that more might experience the joy of your light. Amen.

#### **Day 5: The Patient Light**

And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. <sup>22</sup> The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

- Exodus 13:21-22

Getting ready for Christmas often requires patience. Earlier in the season, I embarked on trying to repair some solar flood lights that shine Christmas colors; their batteries had gone dead and they were soldered into place, so I could not just quickly swap in some new batteries in the compartment. Moving too fast meant the wires broke and even more repair work needed to be done. Patience was demanded. Finally, after several days, the work was done and the lights shone their Christmas colors again.

God's patience is so much more patient than our patience at its very best moments. When we read in Exodus that the Lord guided his people through the wilderness as a pillar of cloud during the day and then a pillar of fire to give them light at night, we see the hand of the far more patient repairman at work. Long before Jesus would arrive, God was gathering his people in preparation for the plan of salvation that still lay distantly in the future.

The Israelites of that day could not see the fullness of what God was going to do, and often they did just as we reflected on yesterday – turning to darkness they thought was light – yet God remained with them and, quite literally, provided them light each night. In fact, the story of God's work with His people is a centuries long story of God patiently soldering back into place the broken wires and replacing the dead batteries of sinful human lives, gradually enabling moments in which people could shine proclamations of the hope of God.

Just as those solar lights only can charge up and shine the red and green of Christmas because they charge in the sun, so too we can only shine as the Son patiently fills us with His light. When we think of how long God worked to prepare for the moment that God-with-us in Jesus would happen, let that remind us of God's patience in our lives, too. He doesn't give up when our wires come lose again; He keeps repairing us in preparation for the joy to come that far surpasses Christmas Day.

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, thank you for filling us with light and patiently repairing our hearts that we might shine your light to a world that needs your help just as much as we do. Please reassure us when we start to think you might give up that you do not give up. You are with us. Thank you for saving us not just from sin, but also enabling us to be more and more like you. We pray in your precious name, Amen.

#### **Day 6: The Written Light**

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. [...] Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

- Psalm 119:105, 129-130

Sometimes I like to live a bit on the wild side: I will go into the garage to get something while the garage door light is still on, after the door has been closed, knowing I only have a limited amount of time to get to what I need and back before the light will go off and it will be very dark. I could intentionally turn on a light first, but I do not.

If you think about the people of God in Old Testament times, this could pretty much describe the plotline of the Bible: God brings them into the light, they stray, they find themselves in the dark feeling afraid. We play that game in our lives, too, stretching the limits of how God has called us to live to see just how far we can go without getting left in the dark.

In those times, we may still know the truth of *Immanuel* – God with us – but we often do not feel it. Thankfully, God did not just come into the world to give us light, He also gave us His Word that testifies to that light. The very fact that we can rejoice in the Christmas story this time of year speaks to how God has given us the gift of His Word.

It is far too tempting not to unwrap that gift at times. We get busy with so much that even though we know we will encounter those times of darkness, we go through periods where we do not return to the wonderful testimonies we find in the Bible.

As we approach the New Year in a couple of days, one way we can take the light of Christmas with us into the coming year is to commit to a Bible reading plan. Not so we can legalistically "earn" God's favor, but so we can better experience the Light we celebrate at Christmas. Coming to God's Word regularly, even when it is light, is like grabbing a flashlight in the twilight hours. We may not feel like we "need" it just then, but it will be there to keep us in the light when the daylight's final rays fade from view.

PRAYER: Immanuel, our God with us, help us never to approach reading your Word as a chore. Instead, give us hearts that eagerly seek to return to the Light you provide through your Word. As we read of your love in the Bible, help us to be less prone to wander and more focused on you in the coming year. We pray these things in Jesus's name. Amen.

### Day 7: Return to the Light

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD. [...] The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

- Isaiah 2:5, 9:2

Have you ever planned to do something really nice to help someone out, only to have them do something downright mean to you just before you had a chance to offer that planned kindness? What do we want to do in those moments? Continue to show kindness or quietly take that favor back before it was even given?

Throughout the prophetic words of Isaiah, we read again and again of a God who restores in spite of what His people do. Though human wisdom would suggest at some point, one should give up on those who keep failing us, God gives these words to His people as they are failing him yet again. The words we read above are in the context of God's people turning to other gods and practices that show a deep disloyalty to the Lord.

Yet, what does God do in the midst of that? Isaiah 9 goes on to include one of our most beloved passages to read at Christmas time in verse 6: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." God calls his disloyal people to come back into His Light and, as He does so, gives one of the clearest promises of who the Messiah would be centuries before Iesus was born.

The Miracle of Christmas is not one that fulfills a promise to the picture perfect, faithful people of God who deserve to have the Creator come and rescue them. No, it is the fulfillment of a promise to people who too often mar the testimony of who God is. Whenever we feel we are too far gone for God's favor, that He surely will not use us "now," He calls us instead to repentance and to turn to Him afresh, because He is the God who restores. Even today.

PRAYER: Jesus, thank you for fulfilling promises we do not deserve to see the fulfillment of. There are so many countless ways humanity deserved to have Christmas "canceled" before it ever happened. And that is true of us still today. Help us to see those places we need restoration and to freely hand them over to you, knowing that you are the one who restores. As we enter the New Year tomorrow, help us to follow you more fully in the time you have given us ahead. We pray in your precious name. Amen.

#### Day 8: Recognizing the Creator's Light

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

-John 1:10-13

I often focus most on the very beginning of John I – the Light of the World has come into the world! God incarnate, the one who spoke the world into existence, spoke to us as a human man. We should not miss the rest of the chapter, though. As wonderful as that story begins, it quickly grows disturbing: he came and "his own people did not receive him."

How is it that we can miss the presence of the very one who created us? And yet, in our own power, that is precisely what we do. Nonetheless, by God's will, John tells us, He enables us to receive Him and to experience His Light in a way that far exceeds anything we could possibly even imagine.

The light the Lord offers us is not merely wise instruction (though it is that) or hope that our past wrongs will be set aside in His mercy (though it is that, too), but that we can actually know the Creator as His children. He does not just want righteous "supporters," He wants us to come before Him as sons and daughters.

What was accomplished at Christmas was not just an invitation to come to a really nice Christmas event with thousands of other people and a celebrity distantly in view up front. What was accomplished at Christmas was God opening the doors of the family home and inviting us inside to the warmth of a celebration with our God as our perfect Heavenly Father. It is that status that gives us confidence that God will provide for us in this New Year and beyond (Matt. 7:7-11). It is the confidence that gives us the ability to call God our Father in addition to calling Him our Lord.

PRAYER: Father, how amazing it is that we can come before you with our needs, our hopes and our fears. How amazing it is that you love us enough to call us your children. As we face a New Year, we pray for your provision for our needs, your forgiveness for our sins and your guidance that we might glorify you and let the whole world know just how amazing our God is. We pray these things in our precious Savior Jesus's name. Amen.

### Day 9: Bringing Light to Others

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

- Acts 13:46-48

I have a bit of an issue when it comes to Christmas candy and cookies that look like Christmas trees or snowmen or other wonderful things. I really do enjoy them, but I hate to eat them because they look so nice before they are eaten. Of course, most food cannot be saved as a decoration, so I have to remind myself that if I do not eat those cookies, they are just going to go bad.

Our lives are like Christmas cookies. God has ornamented us with His love and grace; as we grow in that grace, He brings out fruit in our lives (Gal. 5:22-23), too. As He works in our lives, he sends us out to share the light He produces in our lives with those around us. People need to experience the love of Jesus in our lives just as we need to experience the deliciousness of those cookies. Jesus strikingly describes this call not as one where we show off how good we are, but rather that we live in such a way that people know we are living for Jesus and thus those around us actually "give glory" to God because of how we live.

It can be hard to live as a city on a hill. Our lives as Christians will be scrutinized. When they are, instead of wondering why followers of Jesus are treated differently, we should see this as part of our calling: people are supposed to look at our lives. What do they see when they do? At times we may be judged unfairly, but our calling is not to try to get treated "equally" but to see that scrutiny as an opportunity to live all the more faithfully to God's calling in our lives; to live such lives that even those who most want to find fault in followers of Jesus instead see those transformed by the love of God.

PRAYER: Holy Spirit, help us to show the fruit that you bring forth in our lives. Help us not to seek to be able to "get away" with the stuff other people do or to fixate on how people often are looking to find problems in our lives as believers. Instead, help us to see times when people watch us with scrutiny as times we can show your light all the more clearly. Turn us, our families and our churches into lighthouses that point to the safe harbor of Jesus. We pray in our Savior's name. Amen.

#### Day 10: Getting Uncomfortable to Shine Brighter

And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup> For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." <sup>48</sup> And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

- Acts 13:46-48

The tongue-in-cheek cliché, "Never do today what you can put off for tomorrow," suddenly starts to sound mighty good when we know what we have to say might not be popular. The idea of actually sharing the good news of Jesus, not as a faceless meme, but in meaningful ways with those around us, it can sound like a great project for "tomorrow."

Paul and Barnabas did not just wait for another day when they faced opposition for sharing about Jesus. They didn't stop at that point, though, they just understood that God was calling them further afield to share beyond Israel about the good news of the Messiah. God did not just love Israelites, he loved Gentiles (non-Israelites) too. When we feel like people react poorly to us sharing something about our hope, like Paul and Barnabas, we should remember that God has made us lights to show His love and refuse to cover up our light.

That does not mean we should be obnoxious. Living in a way that actually *shows* God's love, as we considered yesterday, is so crucial as a foundation for sharing the good news. Also, just like Paul and Barnabas, we need to consider the needs of those around us in how we share, because our concern is supposed to be for them.

The point is not that Paul and Barnabas always did the same thing (they didn't) or were always confrontational (they weren't). The point is that they understood the Light of the World had come and He calls his followers to shine the light of His love so others *want* to know who He is.

PRAYER: Lord, it can be intimidating to share your good news with others. There are times it feels so much easier to be silent about who we are, so others won't write us off as "one of those people." Give us the courage to openly shine your light and give us the compassion for people to do so not to say we've accomplished something, but out of genuine love for those around us who do not know you. We pray this in Jesus's name. Amen.

### Day 11: Fellowship in the Light

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

- 1 John 1:7

Some of the best memories from family Christmas gatherings have to be those times, when, later in the evening, everything calms down, and the whole family just shares stories – many of which are of past times together. It reminds us of the community that God has given us through the good and bad times families share.

Even when we do not know it is missing, God has made us for community and when we find genuine community, it allows us to experience a foretaste of what it will be like to be before the throne of God. The best experiences with churches allow us to start to experience what it is like to be part of the family of God. Yes, being adopted as sons and daughters of God speaks about our relationship with the Lord, but it also speaks of our relationship to each other. We are those who have been cleaned by Jesus's blood. When we see that in each other and we value each other as those Jesus came to save, we can start to build shared memories and encourage each other. Just like any family, there may be times we are dysfunctional and do not live up to our calling to love each other, but we are called to seek that fellowship, knowing we share the most wonderful of things: hope in Jesus.

The last few days, we have thought about what it means to be lights for Jesus in the world and being a community of believers together speaks profoundly to this. When a group of imperfect people all recognize their imperfections, all recognize our need for a Savior and all seek to love each other as best as we can, we not only get that foretaste of the future for ourselves, but we start to show the world what God's kingdom looks like.

A single candle does not emit much light, but a whole multitude of candles – like we might see at a Christmas Eve service – can shine brightly enough to light a large church building. So too when we gather together. It is not just for our benefit, but the benefit of a world that sees Jesus's people shine.

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, it can be hard to love each other in the church. We hurt each other. We look out for our own interests instead of the interests of those around us. Help us to be loving, to be forgiving and to be focused not just on how a gathering of believers can make our lives better, but how as a gathering, we can show your love to the world and see more people turn to you this year. We pray in your precious name, Amen.

#### Day 12: The Eternal Light

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>
And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, <sup>25</sup> and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

- Revelation 21:22-25

I actually enjoy the darkness of night at Christmastime. The darkness outside allows all of the beautiful lights to glow and twinkle. I cannot really fathom what it would be like to someday dwell in a place where the most beautiful of lights can shine *without the darkness of night*, but we are told that is the light we will experience in eternity before God.

The True Light that came into the world for us at Christmas is the light by which all the nations will walk. Imagine a day when every realm across the globe walks guided by the light of Jesus! As we see people all over the globe celebrate Christmas, we get a hint, but we still live in a world that is so deeply divided. Right now all we can do is look forward with expectation.

As we approach Epiphany tomorrow, we remember the journey of the Magi to worship the Messiah. We know by how they traveled and sought after Him, they were living in expectation. They did not yet get to see the fullness of Jesus's reign, the day every knee will bow and every tongue confess (Phil. 2:9-11), but by living in expectation they saw fulfillment of God's promises happening before them and they acted.

No one can tell us if the day John talks about in Revelation will happen tomorrow, a hundred years from now or many thousands of years from now. Because we have hope in Jesus, however, we know that we will see that "someday" and we can live in holy hope today of the wonderous things He will do. This new year, may we live with the constant expectation of God's work, so that as, bit by bit, God moves us toward the day we will feast in his presence at the wedding feast of the Lamb, we are constantly ready to see Him working in our lives and the lives of those around us, and ready to celebrate His work as He does.

PRAYER: Father, thank you for showing us your love and giving us hope in the future. Though it can be hard to wait, give us a holy expectation this year, looking forward to all that your plans for the future entail. Help us to travel like the wisemen, confident in your promises. We pray in Jesus's precious name. Amen.

#### **Next Steps**

Thank you for joining me on this devotional adventure over the Christmas season. If you are looking to explore the Scriptures further and experience some of that adopted family of God we discussed above, I would like to invite you to take advantage of the following opportunities to do just that from the two ministries I serve with.

#### Little Hills Church

We are a new church in St. Charles, Missouri and we would love to have you be a part of our beginning. We believe God has called us to start a church that is driven to serve our community with the love of Christ from the beginning. A church that is centered around a deep love of God's Word and a constant expectation that His Word speaks to our lives today. A church that is intentionally multigenerational and stretches across divides in style with elements from both ancient aspects of worship and recent praise songs.

Interested? Please visit us on the web at <a href="www.littlehills.church">www.littlehills.church</a> to find out more about how you can get involved. You can also follow us on social media @LittleHillsChurch (on Facebook and Instagram) and @LittleHillsC (on Twitter).

#### FaithTree Christian Fellowship

FaithTree aims to connect believers from different churches for worship, prayer and thought-provoking conversations about faith, while making a welcoming space for people who are not yet sure what they believe. We are a ministry led by and rooted in local churches; you can learn more about our story at <a href="www.faithtreecf.org">www.faithtreecf.org</a> or on social media <a href="@FaithTreeCF">@FaithTreeCF</a>. Please check out our calendar of events and join us in the near future!

#### **Questions? Comments?**

Are you wanting to know more about who Jesus is? Do you have a question about the Bible? Would you simply like to provide feedback on this devotional booklet? Please feel free to e-mail me at <a href="mailto:timothy.butler@faithtree.com">timothy.butler@faithtree.com</a>. I am always happy to hear from you!