

## *After Darkness... Light*

The Light of Men

John 1:1-5

September 27, 2015

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

**-John 1:4-5**

### I. IN THE BEGINNING

- In the beginning...was the *logos* (Word).
- In the beginning...the *logos* was with God.
- In the beginning...the *logos* was God.
- Once again... He (Jesus the Word) was with God (vs. 2).
- “In the beginning” is shorthand for “Genesis.” God’s Son is there in Genesis 1 (John 1:1-5; Col. 1:15-20; Heb. 1:10-12).
- The goal of science is to provide a single theory that explains the universe (Stephen Hawking, *A Brief History of Time*, pg. 10).
- Christianity teaches that the theory that explains everything is Jesus Christ, the Word of God (Col. 1:16-17).

### II. LIFE & ILLUMINATION— THE GOALS OF CREATION

- Jesus’ activity was not just creation of matter, but the giving of life—and illuminating that life (vs. 4; John 5:21).
- “The light shines in the darkness” is another allusion to Genesis (Gen. 1:1-3).
- We “bear witness” with the light of the gospel. It penetrates into the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it (Matt. 16:18; 1 John 1:5; 4:4).
- As Jesus is light, so we too must be the light of the world (Matt. 5:14-15; John 8:12; 9:5).

**KNOW:** As Jesus is life and light, we are called to carry his life and light to a world that is still set in darkness.

**DO:** Give generously so that the light may go into the darkness.

#### **Suggested Reading:**

*A Chance To Die: The Life of Amy Carmichael*, by Elizabeth Elliot  
*Sowing, Reaping, Keeping*, by Laurence Singlehurst  
*How to Give Away Your Faith*, by Paul Little

### **Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families**

#### **Please Read John 1:1-5**

1. Why does the gospel begin “in the beginning” rather than simply at Jesus’ birth?
2. What is the gospel (see Rom. 1:1-5; 1 Cor. 15:1-11)?
3. In what way is our giving to missions a way of participating in spreading the light of the gospel?
4. How can a person who is not “on the mission field” and cannot afford to give directly to missions involve themselves in the Great Commission?
5. If the darkness cannot overcome the light, how confident should we be that missions will actually accomplish something?
6. How much do you know about missions involvement at LifePoint? Talk some about that as a group.