

Worship:

Let your light shine - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXkxRNEy8XA>

Blessed be Your Name - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rw4H5t3TWHM>

How Great Thou Art - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-hvI1nbS80>

Let your light shine

Isaiah 9:1-7

^{2(D)}The people who walk in darkness

Will see a great light;

Those who live in a dark land,

The light will shine on them.

^{3(E)}You shall multiply the nation,

You ^(F)shall increase their gladness;

They will be glad in Your presence

As with the gladness of harvest,

As ^(G)men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴For ^(H)You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,

The rod of their ^(I)oppressor, as at the battle of ^(J)Midian.

⁵For every boot of the booted warrior in the battle tumult,

And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

⁶For a ^(K)child will be born to us, a ^(L)son will be given to us;

And the ^(M)government will rest ^(N)on His shoulders;

And His name will be called ^(O)Wonderful Counselor, ^(P)Mighty God,

Eternal ^(Q)Father, Prince of ^(R)Peace.

⁷There will be ^(S)no end to the increase of His government or of peace,

On the ^(T)throne of David and over his kingdom,

To establish it and to uphold it with ^(U)justice and righteousness

From then on and forevermore

^(V)The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

Jesus is the Light of the world

John 1

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was with God in the beginning.

3Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood[a] it.

John 8

¹²When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Jesus is the light that overcomes the darkness. A funny story from this week, a colleague of mine was watching some comedy program on their lunch this

week and I overheard the comedians giving their thoughts on Jesus' miracle of feeding the five thousand ... their main point was if only 1 person out of 5000 had the common sense to bring some food with them why didn't Jesus use it as an opportunity to teach the other 4999 people how stupid they were for not planning ahead and bringing some food! (I actually thought this was quite funny – and quite possibly most of us – if we're honest – in a similar predicament would maybe think that the people were a bit daft and deserved to be hungry) ... HOWEVER – These comedians totally missed the point – Jesus has no desire whatsoever to punish, shame or ridicule – He is the light of the world, overflowing with compassion – after all, He took our punishment, He bore our shame, He was ridiculed in our place.

Jesus is the light that overcomes the darkness! He is the answer, hope for the hopeless, comfort for the broken-hearted, healing for the sick, freedom for the oppressed, The Good Shepherd – THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD! Awesome!

I am the light of the world

Matthew 5:14

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. “Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. “In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

WOW – look at this ... Jesus says that we ... I ... you are the light of the world. He believes in us to carry His light in the world we live in to be like Him as a hope for the hopeless, comfort for the broken-hearted, healing for the sick, freedom for the oppressed, good shepherds – THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

I love the story of how Peter's shadow would heal the sick – mainly because it's pretty awesome and because Peter became so like Jesus that his shadow became Jesus' shadow – but also I love it because Peter didn't do ANYTHING! .. He was just walking along, full of the Holy Spirit, living in close relationship with Jesus and miracles happened without any striving, sweating, mustering up faith etc

This is a picture of how God wants us to be, ... carrying His light wherever we are, wherever we go, in whatever we do. We need a permanent God consciousness where we are available to God all the time so He can flood the world around us with His amazing light..

God Has called us to set the captives free!

(v4):

*“For ^(v)You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,
The rod of their ^(v)oppressor, as at the battle of ^(v)Midian.*

Do you remember the story of Gideon? (Judges 7) ... The incredible victory of only a very few (300) against an army of probably a couple of million midianites which was won by 300 unarmed men of faith with a small light in a hidden in a pitcher! When the pitchers were broken and the light shone into

the darkness God annihilated the enemy and Israel was free! It's like God looks for even the smallest faith – like a mustard seed – and, like a Great Father He multiplies it to release HIS power, HIS anointing, HIS light to bring miracles all around our lives.

Our light can easily be hidden in a pitcher of the everyday stuff in our lives but it is Faith that breaks the pitcher and causes our light to shine

This week as we head back into another month of lockdown, pray and ask the Lord where He wants your light to shine to bring His comfort, peace, healing and hope.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it

We are the light of the world - Let's shine!

Worship song to finish:

Everything - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leCXwSvSjCo>