

Bring it Home:

(Use this time to discuss what you've read while your children color this week's luminary picture.)

1. *How is Jesus our Light?*
2. *How is Jesus our Salvation?*
3. *Why do we need Jesus to be our Salvation?*

Family Activity: Make ornaments to hang on your Christmas tree (or keep it up year 'round) as a reminder of the gift of Salvation.

Pray: Thank God for His great plan of Salvation, a special plan that was in place before the world was even created!

Listen/Sing: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (#59)

The Lord is My Salvation (#137)

He Will Hold Me Fast (#143)



Week 4: THE Light wants us to be Light in the World.

Read: Isaiah 60:1-3

Isaiah talks about the glory of the Lord shining through those of us who know God and belong to Him. In this passage we see that nations and kings are drawn to the light. Think about being in a dark room and how quickly the space changes when light is introduced. We see the light immediately and it is easy to identify the source of light when the rest of the space is so dark. As believers, our lives should have that brilliance; the brilliance that reflects the God who loves us so much that He sent His own Son to die in our place.

Bring it Home:

(Use this time to discuss what you've read while your children color this week's luminary picture.)

1. *Can darkness exist when a light is present?*
2. *How does Jesus as the Light drive out darkness?*
3. *How can we "be the light" in our community?*

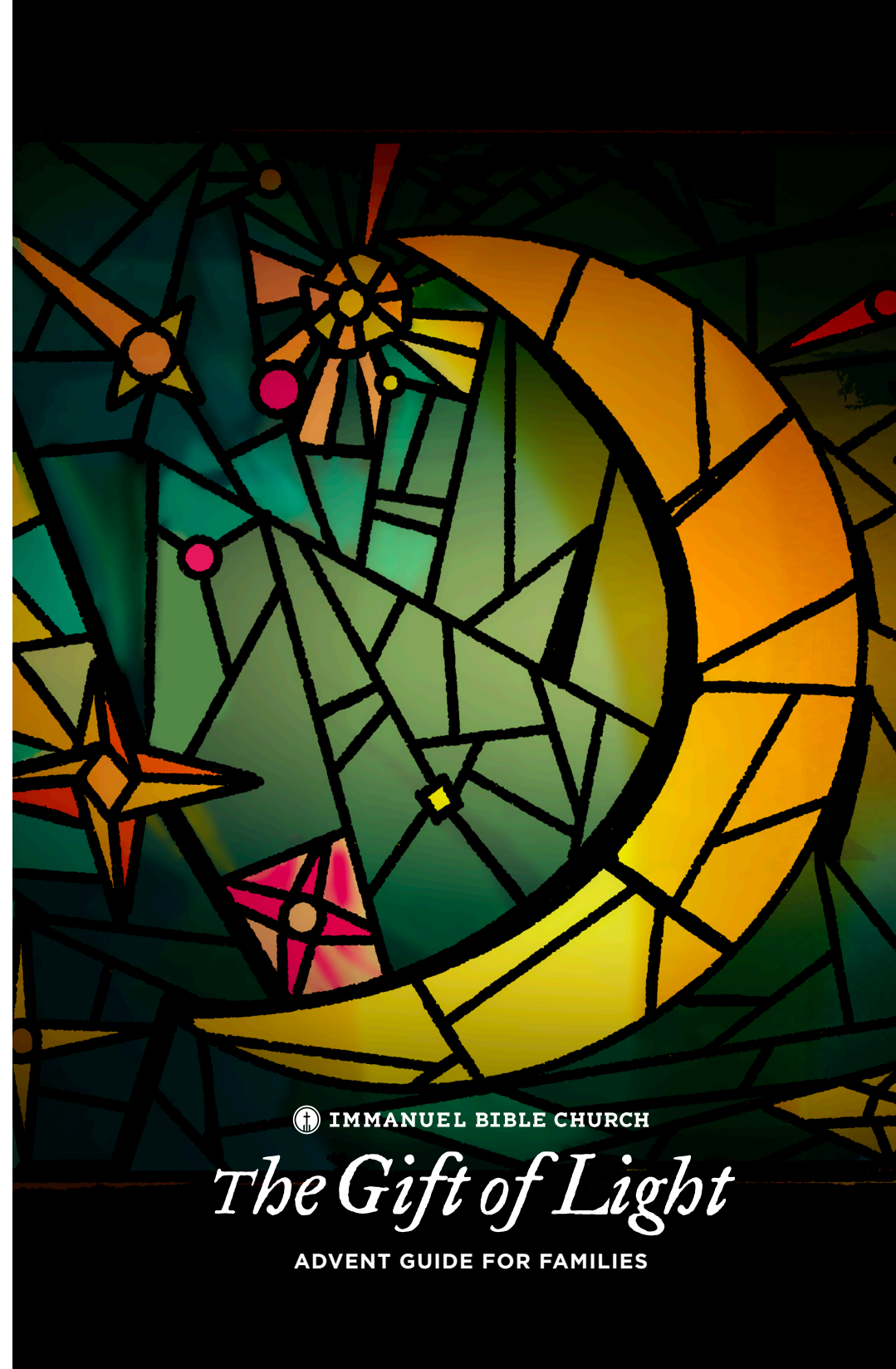
Family Activity: Make paper bag luminarias with cross cutouts and line the sidewalk/road in front of your home so your neighbors can appreciate the beautiful light.

Pray: Spend time thanking God that He's given us the Light to share with others who don't yet know Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the words to say and the courage to share the Gospel message of salvation, the Light.

Listen/Sing: Praise to the Lord, Almighty (#6)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (#65)

10,000 Reasons (#113)



Light. Light of the world. True Light. Bright and Morning Star.

These are all names of Jesus! Have you ever considered why Jesus is so often referred to as “Light” in the Bible? Why do we need light and what does light do? How does Jesus represent that kind of light?

This Advent season, we hope that your family will find comfort and joy in The Gift of Light, especially as the world around us continues to grow more and more dark. We hope that you’ll come to a better understanding of how important The Light is to us, and how we, as believers, need to be light – in our neighborhood, community, nation and world.

Merry Christmas from Immanuel Bible Church!

Note: We have a Pinterest Board where you’ll find recommendations for each week’s Family Activities including recipes for cookies, resources and ideas for ornaments and paper bag luminarias. We hope you enjoy these resources. Each week’s songs come from the Songs of Immanuel songbook (page numbers provided), available for purchase from the IBC Bookstore. Songs can also be found on our spotify playlist: [ibc.church/spotify](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/ibc.church/spotify).



WEEK 1: THE Light Existed Before Creation

Read: Genesis 1: 1-5.

Think about the process of creation in Genesis 1, and the order in which things were created. When God created light, He simply SPOKE it into existence! Isn’t that amazing to consider - that God’s words alone are powerful enough to create light? Don’t forget that Jesus Christ, who is called “the Light of the world,” was right there with God in the beginning when light was created.

Bring it Home:

(Use this time to discuss what you’ve read while your children color this week’s luminary picture.)

1. What was the very first thing that God created?
2. What happened when light was created?
3. Can light and darkness exist at the same time?

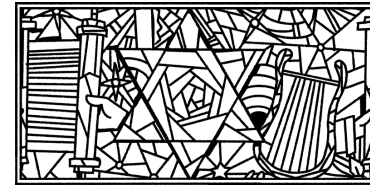
Family Activity: Find a space where you can be together in the dark. Using a flashlight, your phone, or another light source, illuminate the space. Discuss what happened when the light was lit. Can you SEE darkness “flee” or does it happen too quickly?

Pray: Spend some time thanking God for creation, especially the gift of light.

Listen/Sing: All Creatures of our God and King (#2)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (#57)

Behold Our God (#111)



WEEK 2: THE Light Has Come into the World

Read: John 1: 1-4, 9-10, 14

At creation, we saw that God created light before anything else. When God separated the light from the darkness, He called the light Day, and He called the darkness Night. This week we read about Jesus Christ, the True Light, coming into the world. Jesus was the physical representation of God, right here on earth! We read that He was in the very world He created, and yet the world did not know or understand who He was or why He was here.

Bring it Home:

(Use this time to discuss what you’ve read while your children color this week’s luminary picture.)

1. How would the Jews have known about Jesus being referred to as “the Light?”
2. John 1:4 states, “In him was life and the life was the light of men.” What does this verse mean?
3. Why didn’t the world understand who Jesus Christ was when He came to earth?

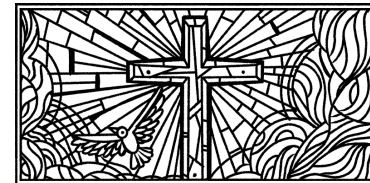
Family Activity: Make Christmas cutout cookies in the shapes of different lights. Talk about how Jesus, as the Light of the World, directly impacted His world.

Pray: Thank God that Jesus became flesh and lived a perfect life here on earth.

Listen/Sing: One True God (#22)

Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery (#69)

Joy has Dawned/Angels We have Heard on High (#61 and #62)



Week 3: THE Light is Salvation

Read: Psalm 27:1, Psalm 36:9

In the book of Psalms, we see that David had reason to be afraid. He was being chased by a king who wanted to harm him, but in those times when he was afraid, David reminded himself of the truth. He knew that God would take care of him. He called God his light AND salvation. He knew that God would take care of his needs and he put his trust in God.