



## Parents' Corner

By Edwina Neely

May God's Blessings Be Upon You!!

We are so thankful that Jesus, the Light of the world, is here, and we can have peace and hope in these unusual times. That is why we are using the theme for this time, "A Thankful Heart for the Gift of Light." At Thanksgiving, Christmas and every day of the year our hearts burst with joy because Jesus is our light and our salvation.

In John 1:9 we are told, "The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world." That light was Jesus, He is the **Gift of Light** and we can rejoice for He has come.

Many times, we take light for granted until the electric power goes off. Then we still automatically flip the switch thinking the lights will come on. Each day God faithfully brings the sunlight, giving us warmth, beauty, and health. This is what we expect each day. We must teach our children to have a thankful heart for Light, and encourage them to stay in the "SON light" -- Jesus' Light. They need to know that when we stay in the SON light, Jesus leads us in truth, in love and in His power.

The following is an activity to experience the power of light and reinforce the GIFT OF LIGHT -- Jesus!

Sing or say the words to the song, "Jesus, the Light of World". (Google it and choose the artist you like best.)

*Hark the herald angels sing,  
Jesus the light of the world.  
Glory to the newborn King,  
Jesus, the light of the world.*

Refrain:

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
Oh, shine all around us by day and by night.  
Jesus, the light of the world.*

- Get a flashlight, a battery-operated candle, or a lantern.
- Gather everyone in a room. Explain to the children: "We will join hands now and cut out all of the lights. It will be really dark but that's okay, for we are all together. We will notice how dark it is and how hard it is to see anybody or anything."
- Then cut out the light source.

Jesus  
THE LIGHT OF THE  
World

- In the dark, turn on the source of light you chose (ex., flashlight) and point it to the floor making a line of light. Walk around the room following the line of light as you say or sing the words to the song above. Explain that Jesus came to give light to the world, and if we stay in Jesus' Light, we are safe. Repeat the song and walk around as many times as you desire.
- Cut the lights back on and discuss with everyone what they learned.

This activity can even be done with your baby in your arms. Follow all of the steps above, talk to your baby and sing the song. Remember: your baby has receptive language now, even though expressive language is still developing.

Enjoy a time with the family walking in the GIFT OF LIGHT!