



Faith Together at Home

Jesus, the Light of the World

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Jesus

Gather Together

Gather together in a comfortable place in your home. Have a younger child bring a Bible, an older child/adult bring a candle, and an adult bring some matches. Begin by lighting the candle and asking everyone to sit quietly for a few moments, listening for God.

Talk about times your family has been in a dark place (camping at night, in a cave, in a movie theatre). Ask everyone to watch the flicker of the candle flame while you read aloud John 8:12.

Discover Together

Jesus grew up without electricity or battery-powered lights. At night, millions of stars filled the sky over his home and at times a full moon cast a light almost as bright as day. Today, those same celestial lights continue to brighten our sky. And Jesus continues to be the light of the world. Find an object that glows or lights up. Hide it in a place with no lights. Invite everyone to search for the light. Have the first person who finds it shout, "Jesus is the light of the world!" Let this person hide the object for the next round. Play until everyone has had an opportunity to find the light. Then take turns passing the light around and offering prayers of thanks to Jesus.

Talk Together

Ask these questions of each other:

- When you are feeling afraid or down, how can the light of Jesus bring you comfort?
- Think about parts of your life you keep hidden. Talk with Jesus about those hidden places.
- What can you do to brighten up someone's day today?

Watch Together

Choose a day when your whole family can spend the morning together. Find out when the sun will rise on that day and make plans to get up early and watch it rise together. As you wait, offer quiet prayers to Jesus. Try listening to soft music or singing a praise song together. Sip juice or warm drinks. Notice whether the light comes all at once or gradually. Use the experience to talk about how Jesus can dawn in each of our lives.

Serve Together

Think of ways to share light with your church and community. Donate candles or oil for your sanctuary altar. Buy flashlights for people living at a homeless shelter. Invite neighborhood children to stargaze in your yard. Donate a book about the sun to your local library.

Family Prayer

Say this prayer or blessing at the close of your time: **Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world. Thank you for sharing your light with us. Amen.**