

GOD IS LIGHT – WHY WALK IN DARKNESS?

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 1 John 1: 5

Walking in darkness is generally more dangerous than in well-lit areas. At the very least, we are more likely to stumble, or maybe lose our way, or even be attacked by a dangerous animal or violent person. God's Word talks about walking in a different kind of darkness – the darkness of separation from God himself.

As our theme verse says, God is light, and darkness is no part of him. Throughout the Old Testament we are told of people walking in the darkness of sin, and of the promised Saviour who will shine a "great light" on them. This light will bring amazing joy, peace and release from oppression, and the righteous rule of this promised One will have no end (Isaiah 9:2-7). Of course Jesus is the true light who came into the world to save us from the sin that separates us from God, and free us from Satan's realm of darkness and death.

But even as Christians, saved by grace, we can choose whether we will continually walk in the light, having fellowship with the Lord and one another, or in the darkness of sin and self-deception. Our natural tendency is to love the darkness, hoping perhaps that our evil deeds (and words, and thoughts) will go undiscovered. (John 3: 19-21) But there is a better choice – to confess our sins and receive the forgiveness and cleansing that God desires to give us. (1 Jn. 1: 9)

Jesus' plan is for his people to be lights in our own worlds, as we follow Him who is the Light of the whole world. As we spend regular time saturating our minds and hearts with God's Word, determined to obey it, and as we allow the Holy Spirit to direct and control our words and deeds, we shine like a city on a hilltop, or a lamp on a stand, thereby bringing glory to our heavenly Father. (Matt. 5: 23-16) Let us choose not to walk in the dangerous darkness of so-called "little" sins, or of neglect of God's Word and prayer, but rather to walk in the joy of God's light and truth.

I pray that this season's scriptures will encourage you as you practice walking in the Light.

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Connecting Streams

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WEEKLY FACTS SCRIPTURE VERSES

JANUARY 2018 – APRIL 2018

Based on the Following Scripture and Theme: **God is Light**

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	FOCUS	ADORATION	CONFESSION	THANKSGIVING	SUPPLICATION
	Look to Jesus and prepare to hear	Intentional Praise	Remove obstacles Break strongholds Cleanse hearts	For what God has done and what you receive in faith	Stand together and ask, knowing God hears and God answers
January 2018					
7	I John 1: 5	Psalms 104:1-4	I John 2: 9-11	John 1: 9-13	Isaiah 58: 9-11
14	John 1: 1-5	Rev. 21: 23-24	Phil. 2: 14-16	Psalms 43: 1-3	2 Corinthians 4:6-7
21	Isaiah 9: 2-3	Exodus 15: 11	I John 1: 8-10	I Thess. 5: 1-5	Isaiah 42: 6-7
28	Ephesians 5:8-14	Psalms 89: 15-18	Psalms 139: 11-12	Psalms 60:19-20	Acts 26: 16-18
February 2018					
4	John 8: 12	Psalms 27:1-3	I Thess. 5: 5-8	Psalms 112: 4-5	Isaiah 2: 5
11	John 3: 19-21	Psalms 57: 9-11	Eccles. 2: 13-14	Psalms 18: 28-29	Philippians 1: 9-11
18	Matthew 5: 14-16	Philippians 2: 9-11	Isaiah 50: 10-11	Psalms 49: 6-7	2 Corinthians 4: 1-4
25	Psalms 119: 105	2 Cor. 1: 20-22	Isaiah 59: 9-12	Isaiah 60: 1-3	Ephesians 1: 17-19
March 2018					
4	Isaiah 58: 6-8	Psalms 19: 1-2	Psalms 90: 8	Isaiah 60: 19-20	I John 3: 21-22
11	John 12: 46	I Timothy 1: 17	Psalms 42: 16-17	Romans 8: 16-17	Luke 11: 9-10
18	Matthew 4: 14-16	Jude 1: 24-25	Psalms 79: 8-9	2 Cor. 4: 16-18	I Thess. 5: 16-18
25	I John 1: 6-7	Luke 24: 1-9	Romans 3: 22-24	Luke 22: 19-20	James 4: 2-3
April 2018					
1	Isaiah 42: 6-7	I Chron. 29: 11-13	Romans 13: 12-14	Philippians 4:19-20	Ephesians 6:10-13
8	Psalms 119:130	Psalms 108: 1-5	Proverbs 4: 18-19	Luke 1: 78-79	Ephesians 3: 20-12
15	Col. 1: 9-14	Nehemiah 9: 5-6	Hebrews 10: 19-22	Psalms 100: 1-5	John 16: 24
22	Luke 11: 33-36	Isaiah 35: 8-10	I Peter 1: 14-16	Psalms 107:1-3	Luke 18: 1
29	Psalms 19: 7-9	I Peter 1: 3-5	Psalms 51: 1-4	Nehemiah 9:12	Matthew 21: 21-22