

Reflecting the Light of the World

Twelve days after Christmas every year, churches around the world mark the day of Epiphany, remembering the appearance of the star to the Magi. The light of the star led the Magi to Jesus; this event signifies the extension of God's family to include Gentiles, which had a profound effect on the future of God's people. Thankfully, the Bible tells us what to expect when we encounter the transformational light of Christ and how that light affects our discipleship.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How would you explain the meaning and purpose of Epiphany?
- What does it take to keep a light going? What does it take to share or reflect light?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Reflecting the Light of the World](#)

READ [Titus 2:11-15](#), [Isaiah 60:1-5](#), [Matthew 5:13-16](#), [2 Corinthians 4:1-9](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Who in your life do you see shining God's light well?
- How did you react in segment 2 when host Scott Hoezee said we share Christ's identity as light of the world, noting that in [Matthew 5:14](#), Jesus is not telling his disciples to *become* the light of the world, but rather that "You *are* the light of the world"?
- Why do you think it's so hard for us to repent (individually and corporately) when our actions and choices hide God's light?
- As they closed the episode, Scott and host Darrell Delaney identified four practical takeaways for Epiphany: 1) be thankful for Jesus' declaration that we *are* the light of the world, 2) confess our sins, 3) pray for strength in spiritual battles, and 4) pray that God lifts the veil of sin that keeps everyone from seeing the light of Christ. Which of those feels most pertinent at this time in your life?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Galatians 5:22-25](#), [John 8:12](#), [1 John 1:9](#), [Ephesians 6:10-12](#), [John 1:1-5](#), [John 9](#), [Romans 6:1-14](#)

CONCLUSION

When Christ entered our world, he brought a grace that saves us and equips us for faithful living as his disciples. We are Christ's light in the world today, and the world needs to see God's light shining through us. Our own sin and spiritual battles threaten to dim our light, but if we repent, God rekindles that light. Close your time of reflection by praying through the four takeaways Scott and Darrell identified, listed above.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/reflecting-the-light-of-the-world>

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