



**Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide:
Greetings: September 13, 2020**

Recap:

- Christians throughout the centuries have a new inheritance and belong to a new reality. Paul adds that familiar language to darkness and light to describe our new reality. We belong to a new kingdom of light. But we are not only rescued by the light; we are given the light to shine into the darkness of the world.
- We are people of resurrection, rescued and redeemed to bring his kingdom of light into the world wherever darkness still finds a hold, which is why we are involved in our world with the things that we do, with the local and global partners at Southeast. When we support Purchased, we help tear down the destructive world of sex trafficking. When we support WaterStep, we are bringing clean water and life to desperate people in violent places in our world. When we serve the homeless, through Food 4 Souls, we show dignity to everyone, not just those who look or live like us. Through these organizations, light is coming into the world, rescue and redemption is taking place.
- We should strive to be people who never grow weary of shining light in the darkness and find our source in the name of Jesus, who has rescued and redeemed us.

Discuss:

1. Read Colossians 1:1-14
2. Who is a person whose faith in Jesus and love for God's people you had heard but hadn't met yet? Did you ever meet the person? What were they like?
3. Is there someone that you haven't met before but you still pray for? What is that like?
4. Are you reassured by the idea that people are praying for you? What is that like?
5. Why do you think so many authors of books of the Bible use the images of light and dark?
6. How does it feel to read that Jesus said that "You are the light of the world"?
7. How does that statement contrast with other messages we hear in the world?
8. Read Colossians 1:15:20
9. How would you explain how Jesus is like the head of the body, which is the church?
10. What do you think it means that God's fullness dwells in Jesus?
11. Is there a place of darkness that you feel called to light into? What is that call like?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Readings about Light and Darkness

- John 1:1-18
- Ephesians 5:8
- 1 John 2:9-12