



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Light*
Message: *The Night the
Lights Went Out*

Scripture: *John 3:16-31*

Date: December 8 & 9, 2018

—[LET'S START]—

This week, Pastor Dale talked about the Mammoth Caves in Kentucky being the darkest place that he had ever been. Where is the darkest place you can recall spending time in? How did it make you feel?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE:** What happened last week for which you are thankful?
2. **PRAYER:** What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? As a group, take some time to pray. Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work, and pray about the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
3. Read John 3:1-21 together as a group. Now, have someone retell the story of John 3:1-21 the best that they can, as if they were there.
4. There is so much treasure if we dig deep into this passage. What does this passage teach us about God?
5. What does this passage teach us about people? Think specifically of Nicodemus. What do we observe about his character? What can we learn from his questions? Are there indicators elsewhere in Scripture that this conversation with Jesus changed Nicodemus? Does this passage teach us anything about humanity in general?
6. What do you sense that God is telling you to do as a result of what you have read?
7. Who do you know that needs to know this?
8. How can your group help with a challenge that you are facing this week?

—[LET'S ACT]—

This sermon series is about Jesus being the Light of the World. At the beginning of this week's sermon, Pastor Dale said, "Though Jesus did not come to condemn the world, His coming did divide the world and still divides it today. You're either a believer or an unbeliever."

As a group, take time to pray through your Adopt 7. Pray that Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, would be made known to your friends and family who don't know Him. Pray that God would give you the courage to live as Salt and Light in this World. And, pray that God would give you an opportunity, this Christmas season to share the hope of His Gospel with someone who needs to know Christ.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- Jesus' coming into the world was not to condemn the world, but it certainly divided the world. You're either a believer or an unbeliever.
- In John 3:1-21, Nicodemus, a religious leader who devoted his whole life to understanding the Law and the Prophets, didn't know what to make of Jesus. So, he approached Jesus under the cover of darkness to ask some very important questions.
- Jesus told Nicodemus about the importance of being born again.
- Why do some of your family, friends and neighbors disbelieve Who Jesus is? Why is there such animosity throughout history towards Jesus, His Word and His followers?
 - It's deeper than unbelief.
 - It's not because Jesus had character flaws.
 - The ultimate reason that people choose not to believe in Jesus is because they love the darkness more than the light.
- Jesus says you cannot be in the light and dearly love sin and evil.
- We are left with only a few options:
 - View Jesus as irrelevant for our times, which means He wasn't Who He claimed to be.
 - Edit Jesus. Try to bring Jesus and the Bible up to date.
 - Believe in Jesus and repent of your sins. Place your faith in Christ and Christ alone. Experience victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ.

—[NOTES]—
