



*Light of the*  
**WORLD**

**John 1:1-14 [NIV - modified]**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was [Jesus], and [Jesus] was with God, and [Jesus] was God.

<sup>2</sup>[Jesus] was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through [Jesus] all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In [Jesus] was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>[Jesus] was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>[Jesus] came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive [Jesus], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus] became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



**John 3:16 [NIV]**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Love has **COME**.

**John 1:12 [NIV]**

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Love **MADE** a way.



**1 John 3:16 [NIV]**

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

## How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need LIGHT & LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive LIGHT & LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as Savior & Lord.

### **You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:**

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

**If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “LOVE” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.**

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### **For Further Reflection:**

:: Share one word that best describes your Advent season this year. Why did you pick that word?

:: What is one thing God has been teaching, or reteaching, you in our “Light of the World” series? How are you living now as a result of what he has shown you?

:: Compare/Contrast John 3:16 and 1 John 3:16.

:: What do you see in these 2 verses that are different or the same?

:: What do they both reveal about the love of God?

:: Read/Review John 1:1-14. What stands out most to you in this passage? Why?

:: Where have you seen the love of God make a difference in your life or someone you love? Or...where are you still waiting/asking for him to move?

:: Pastor Shawn said, “Love isn’t reflected in permission, but priority.”

:: Why is pursuing what is best more loving than letting others do whatever they want?

:: How did God demonstrate that reality?

:: Where might God want you to address his priorities in this season?

:: Identify one thing God is inviting you to do this week in his love...then do it.



Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – December 19 & 20, 2020

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