

Jesus-The Life and Light

Oasis: A self-guided time of prayer

July 22, 2015

The prayer altar is always open, feel free to be in prayer any way that is comfortable for you.

In Him [Jesus] was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1: 4-5

Without light, life can become impossible, difficult, and sometimes dangerous. Walking to one's car after a late night at work can create hazards, letting one's dog out at night without a light can become a worrisome venture, and driving a car without headlights can be life threatening. Without light in our life the cement on which we walk, the grass on which our dogs run, and the highway on which our cars drive cannot be illuminated and correctly discerned. Without the light of Christ in our lives things can become dark and confusing and sometimes dangerous.

Come into the light of Christ. Listen for His voice.

You are invited to take this moment and ask Jesus to illuminate circumstances in your life that you feel or think have been covered in darkness. A hurt, a lie, a burden, a broken relationship, places of confusion and in need of discernment, etc. Lift these up to God and listen to the truths He is revealing to you.

Jesus not only is the light of men, but is also the *life*. The Greek word for *life* in John 1:4-5 is *zoe* which is defined in the Strong's concordance as life or living existence. This is not a mundane, complacent life, but a living, breathing, moving, growing life. In Jesus is *zoe* and in Jesus is *light*.

Think about your current life situation. Are you merely existing or are you living, breathing, moving, and growing? Have the areas of darkness in your life caused you to lose some of your life?

Take a moment and ask God to illuminate areas in your life that have become dull, that are lacking a sense of *zoe*. These areas might indeed be the same areas that are lacking illumination as well.

The candle you received represents your life. Imagine how dull it would be, how lifeless without a flame; without a light. Imagine all of the places in your life that are without light and without life.

You are invited to make your way to one of two tables. There is one table in the front and one table in the back of the sanctuary. There is a large candle in the center of the table which represents Christ and the light He brings to our lives. Invite God to light up those dark areas in your life. Ask God to light up those dull places, or places that you have given up on. As you are asking God to give you His light in these dark places, place your candle wick in the flame of Christ. Place your candle on the table. Ask God to show you His light this week in those areas despite how dark they may seem. Give thanks for God's faithfulness.