

**Light of the World**

Being light isn't what we \_\_\_\_\_, it's who we \_\_\_\_\_.

We are called to be \_\_\_\_\_.

We shine to \_\_\_\_\_, not to \_\_\_\_\_.

Our lives point \_\_\_\_\_.

Light shines \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

We shine by staying connected to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

# **GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK**

**For the week of February 8, 2026**

Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that stood out to you as particularly positive or hopeful? If so, what was it and why? Was there anything that you disagreed with or that challenged you? If so, what was it and why?

## **My Story**

- 1.** If you could build your perfect multi-course meal – appetizer, entrée, side(s), dessert, what would be included? Think about your favorite and/or best you've ever had of each. Pay no attention to whether or not you're creating a well-balanced meal!
- 2.** As we're finally able to emerge from these snow days, tell us your favorite thing to do on a snow day. Are you a fan of snow days or not so much?
- 3.** The world feels awfully heavy these days. What is something that is bringing you joy right now?

# Digging Deeper

1. In a passage often associated by Christians with Messianic prophecy, but which Israel understood to be their particular calling as God's servant, the prophet Isaiah reminds God's people that they are to be a light to other nations. Read Isaiah 42:1-9. How is the servant, whom God upholds, described in vv. 2-3?

What is the servant's mission in vv. 4-7? What is God's promise in vv. 5, 8-9? Where does the servant's power lie? What kind of power is it?

How might we, as God's servants, emulate and embody gentle, persistent service in a loud, power-driven world, especially when supporting those who are weak and broken? How can we, in times when we feel like a "bruised reed", trust that God uses the weak to accomplish his purposes?

How might we, as God's people and God's servants, be a light to the nations by fighting for justice and showing compassion to the marginalized in our communities?

2. Re-read the Hebrew Bible passage that was read in worship yesterday, Isaiah 58:1-9a. (When there is an a after a verse, it means just read the first half of that verse.) What is the chief complaint of the people of Israel in this passage in verse 3a? What is the Lord's response in vv. 3b-4?

What does the Lord ask his people to do in vv.6-9a so that their light will shine before them? What does doing this look like for us in our society today? What is the result for them of doing this? What might be the result for us?

3. Read Psalm 119:1-8, 97-105. The Psalmist talks about God's word being a light for our path. What are some ways that Scripture lights the path of our spiritual journey?

## Taking It Home

4. We all go through times when the darkness threatens to overwhelm us and it is difficult to keep our light shining. Read Psalm 18:1-6, 16-30. What does this poem have to say about how our darkness is turned into light?

Read John 1:1-5 and John 8:12. What do these passages teach us about keeping our lamp shining, even in dark times?

Pastor Tim said we continue to shine by staying connected to the Power Source. In what ways do you stay connected to God so that he might keep your lamp burning and turn your darkness into light?