

## MEDITATION 1: GLORY IN OUR MIDST

The Word became a human being. He made his home with us. We have seen his glory. It is the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father. And the Word was full of grace and truth.

- JOHN 1:14 NIRV

Your team winning the **biggest** game. A hero's **bravery** in a dangerous situation. The award for the **best** science project. An experience of glory is something you don't forget.

*Glory is a greatness that lasts—a story worth telling, having influence that matters.*

In the Old Testament, God's glory was also another word for his presence. People couldn't see God, but when Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, his presence led them as a cloud. His glory filled the tabernacle, and everyone had to wait outside. When God's glory passed by, God hid Moses behind a rock.

But one night outside Bethlehem, God's glory shone around a group of shepherds as angels declared "Glory in highest!" And in the nearby town a baby's cry announced that God's glory had come to earth—that the son of God, who helped create the world itself, had become a human! And his name would be called Emmanuel: God with us.

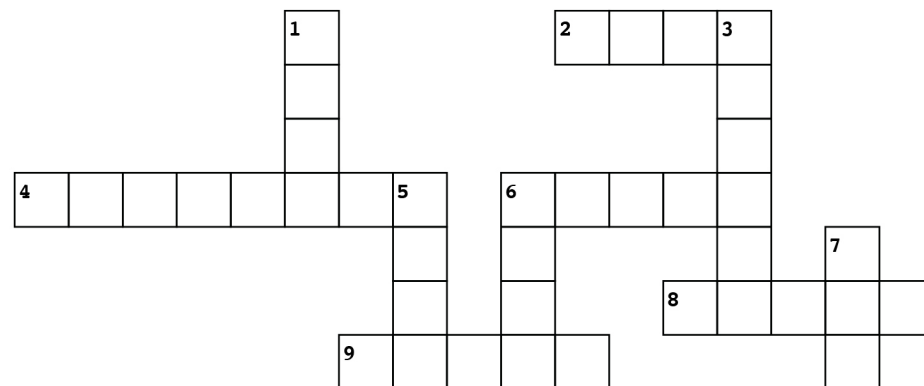
Jesus' glory was shown in dramatic and humble ways. He walked on water, but he also spent a lot of time on dusty roads. He taught, and he was judged. He healed sickness, but he and his disciples weren't spared life's frustrations.

**Is everyday life glorious? Maybe it can be—if Jesus is with us.** Over the next few weeks, we will look at the glory John saw, and the glory Jesus himself described, to help us better understand what it means to have the presence of God with us.

*Today: What comes to mind when you think about "glory"? Is it something you dream of for yourself? Is it something you associate with other people? If you think about God, what do you picture?*



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 2. opposite of death
- 4. King David's first job
- 6. opposite of dark
- 8. Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of life
- 9. it's best to tell the \_\_\_\_\_

### DOWN

- 1. what grapes grow on
- 3. day Jesus rose again
- 5. opening in a wall
- 6. 40 days before Easter
- 7. direction

