



Series: **Illuminate**  
Message: **The Dark within Me**



## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### START:

- What is your favorite holiday food? What do you look forward to eating every year at Christmas time? Does Christmas time mean you eat some things you shouldn't? Does it mean you eat more than you should?

### THINK:

- Read John 3: 19-20. What do you think of this statement: "We all do what we *know* we should not do."? Is this true? Why or why not?
- What do you think of this statement: "Just a little bit of light can start to dissipate the darkest of places."? Have you seen or experienced this idea at work?
- Read 1 John 1:8-9. What can you do to even start to "come into the light" and let the light of Jesus shine in your life? (Remember: What is concealed is always revealed.)

### PRAY:

- This week, ask God to help you confront and admit to the darkness in you. Then ask Him to begin to show you what you can do to let Jesus' light shine in your life.

### ACT:

- We all have darkness in us. This week, ask yourself: Do you let that darkness rule you? Do you let it condemn you and make you feel guilty and unworthy? Do you admit it's existence and allow the light of Jesus to overcome it?
- As you ask yourself these questions, remember "Christmas is not the most wonderful time of the year because of what is happening to us-around us, but because of what HAPPENED." What can this group of friends do to help you move towards the light of Jesus this Christmas?

### READ:

<sup>19</sup> *This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.*  
<sup>20</sup> *Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.* <sup>21</sup> *But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.* **John 3: 19-21**

<sup>8</sup> *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.* <sup>9</sup> *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

**1 John 1:8-9**



### 1. READ IT

engage the discussion guide on your own

### 2. GROUP IT

invite friends to join you

### 3. GROW IT

meet regularly with others

### 4. LEAD IT

connect with your campus pastor to learn about ADVANCE leadership at TCC