

Advent: The Light of the World
“Light that brings Love”
John 8:12; 1 John 2-4

1. Christmas is the story of God’s light and love penetrating our **darkness**.

We were created to run on **love**.

Sin damages us producing the darkness of feeling unloved and insecure.

Darkness is intensified as we try to **fill** our love deficit in self-centered ways.

We need God’s love to fill us, **heal** us and save us.

2. Christmas **tangibilifies** God’s love.

God is the **source** of love.

God **showed** us his love in sending Christ.

3. Christmas **displays** Christ’s love.

Jesus came to earth because of **love**.

Jesus lived a **life** of love.

Jesus died for our sins **because** of love.

4. Christmas **reveals** our love.

God’s love is made **complete** when we love like Christ.

We are to **re-present** the love of Christ to others.

LifeGroup Questions: Applying the Teaching to Our Lives

1. What’s the best gift you’ve ever received for Christmas? Best ever given?
2. Read 1 John 4:7-8 and 19-21. Then read 4:1-6 to get the wider context. What is the relationship between vv. 1-6 and the rest of chapter 4?
3. What are some of the more popular ways people try to fill their love deficit?
4. Read Eph. 5:1-2. How does this passage reflect the points about love in the sermon?
5. Read 1 John 4:11-12. How is God’s love made “complete”? Does it alarm you that God counts on us to make his love complete? How do you do this?

Core CHRISTlike Characteristic: Relates with Other-Centered Love/Loving People