

## Week 4

For great is Your steadfast love towards me...
—Psalm 86:13

Week 4



For great is Your steadfast love towards me...
—Psalm 86:13



## Scripture References This Lesson

Psalm 86:11-13 John 3:16 Ephesians 2:4-10 John 13:34-35 Ephesians 5:2 Colossians 2:12 Philippians 2:5-8 Psalm 147:11 Preparing Our Hearts

The Big Question:

"As we fix our mind's attention and our heart's affection on the glory of Christ's love, more and more we become loving." —John Piper

## **HOMEWORK #4**



- **Read Isaiah 62:10-12.** Look at the names in verse 12 –Holy People, Redeemed of the Lord, Sought After, City No Longer Deserted. How has Christ's coming changed your identity? How do the four names apply to you?
- Read John 3:16 and 1 John 4:9. How did God show us his love? How should we respond?
- **Read Isaiah 9:2**. What is it like to walk in complete darkness? What does light do to the darkness? How is sin like darkness? Why is Jesus called the light? How can you be light to those around you? Read Revelation 22:5.
- Read Isaiah 60:1-3, 17-22. Where was the darkness? Who is the light? What words are repeated in these verses? Can you find any opposites? What do they represent? ILook for theme of light in these verses. In the Bible, darkness often means sin and hopelessness. Glory refers to God's presence. When Jesus was born, God's presence came to earth in a special way. Jesus brings life, hope, and freedom. Theses verses find their fulfillment in the people of God, who have been redeemed by Christ. Which of these promises have been fulfilled in your life? Which ones do you look forward to seeing fulfilled?
- **Read Isaiah 11:1-3.** What do we learn about who Christ is in these verses? Do you turn to Jesus as your wisdom, counsel, power, and source of knowledge and understanding? What does He delight in? How does this encourage you? "Shoot of Jesse"....
- **Read Psalm 103.** Write a list of all the blessings God has given you as a part of his gift of eternal life in Jesus. Pray for a grateful heart during this Advent season.



**The First Gift Tradition** - Wrap a box that can be used every Christmas and fill it with white index cards that read "Jesus blessed me this year by..." (or something to this effect). Fill out as many cards as you want individually and then place them in the box on Christmas Eve. Christmas morning open the box and read them aloud to one another reminding each other of the many blessings our Messiah King has bestowed on us. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving to our giving Lord for all the many gifts he has given us. OR

Write "Jesus I thank and worship you because..." on each of the cards so that our gift to Jesus is filled with praises to him (what he truly desires).