

TITLE AND NUMBER: 167. Walk in the light



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

LOOKING FURTHER: Isaiah 9: 2-7, John 8:12, Matthew 5:14-16, Ephesians 5:1-21

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Recently, I heard an interesting talk from someone who is both an astrophysicist and a minister in the church. He conveyed the wonder of the universe.

Some of you may have seen the pictures from NASA's James Webb telescope; the clearest images so far of distant galaxies. There are estimated to be 200 billion trillion stars in the universe. It's truly mind-blowing.

This reading from Genesis reminds us of the creative nature of God; that from the beginning, the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. The first thing that God created was light and He saw that it was good.

Consistently in both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, we are encouraged to walk in the light, and to turn away from the things of darkness.

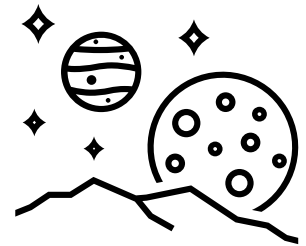
We hear a wonderful prophecy in Isaiah: 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light' (Isaiah 9:2). This prophecy is fulfilled when Jesus tells us, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life' (John 8:12).

Today, at the start of this new year, let us thank God for these promises and ask Him to bring His creative Spirit and His light into our lives.

Reflections:

- Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world.' How does this help you?
- We are encouraged to walk in the light, to have the light of life. Think about these words. What do they mean for you and for those around you?
- If possible, watch a programme about nature or spend some time outside and enjoy the beauty of our natural world.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

