

trinity *Tidings*

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lutheran
reaching hearts, touching lives

Christmas Lights

You find them on houses, trees inside and outside, and on storefronts just to name a few of the numerous locations Christmas lights are found this time of the year. For most, they are simply lights, something different, something that's here for a time and gone shortly after the new year begins. Even so, those lights can serve as our encouragement.

Be

A light is a light, right? It is what it is because that's just how it works.

The same is true for you. You are a light to the world. Jesus says, "You are the light of the world." So, if you are the light, it only makes sense that your task and my task is to be that light. We don't need to think about it; we just do what we are designed to do - be a light.

As you see those Christmas lights of various colors, say to yourself, "I am a light. I need to be a light. What can I do in this moment to be His light?"

When we remember that we are a light, our next logical step is to do what we were created to do - be a light.

Reflect

When you see those Christmas lights in the store window or the windows of your house, what do they create on the window? Reflections, right?

As a light, our Savior not only want us to be; He also wants us to reflect. But what do we reflect?

We reflect Him to the world around us. We allow Him to use us to be a reflection of Christ's love and care, of His tenderness and concern, of His presence and power. Like those lights reflecting in the window, we reflect Him because, as others look at us, they see a reflection of Jesus.

Celebrate

Do lights celebrate? Do they have a grand party when no one is looking? I don't know and it doesn't matter.

What matters most is that we make time, plan time, do whatever it takes so that we have the opportunity to celebrate light, to celebrate the coming of the Light of World.

Each time we see those Christmas lights, they whisper in our ears, "Celebrate! Celebrate the birth of your Savior. Celebrate His love, His forgiveness, His promises, His hope, His presence."

As we take those moments to celebrate, as we gather to celebrate, our hearts are encouraged to be and to reflect.

Christmas lights are so beautiful in the night sky. But before you dismiss them as mere beauty, allow them to encourage you, to encourage you to be a light, to reflect the light, and, most of all, to celebrate the Light of the World during this Christmas season and all year long.

