

Small group optional guide  
Advent Series: Heavenly Hope

## IN: FELLOWSHIP

➤ Serving opportunity: Sunday morning welcome team volunteers needed. Main duties are:

Setting chairs out before meeting / Welcoming people to the service / Putting chairs away afterwards / Serving Tea and Coffees

- everyone doesn't have to do everything, currently very short on people for chairs. (please email

[dave@jcceg.co.uk](mailto:dave@jcceg.co.uk) )

➤ These words were brought on Sunday, did they connect with anyone? If they did please pray for each other.

Ed: see someone that is trapped, running out of options, really desperate; There is God who saves, the light of the world

Grace: you have nothing left to give, but you need a change of mind set, God is saying "give me your mind set"

Lizzy: looking at the withered tree on stage, empty, full of struggle, it's in a winter season, let God in, He doesn't need you to bring anything, just let Him in.

Andy: what does the Lord require? Micah 6:8,9

### MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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## UP: Kat Gunter's sermon John 8:12

Knows the way, defeated the enemy, nothing to fear  
Light eradicates fear and despair

John 8, found in the temple, teachers of the law are trying to trick Jesus. He is presented with a woman caught in her sin (the Devil is like a prowling lion - he had his claws in her) - Jesus sees her with compassion

1 John 2 But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 8:12 calls us to follow, ALL to follow, both the obvious sun and the hidden: There is hope, forgiveness, freedom and grace for everyone

This light is for all ages, stages, all people

What does this tell us about God?

- I am statement
- Yahweh means I am
- Jesus is the eternal faithful God
- Definite; will and will never

Application:

➤ despair when you have no control (others actions or health)

➤ Despair through mental health, strongholds

Light is available to all who follow him!

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**UP: Kev Defriend's sermon Matt 5:14-16**

Knows the way, defeated the enemy, nothing to fear

1) YOU are the light of the world

“I am the light of the world” declaration

2) A town on a hill cannot be hidden

Don't hide it!

Let your light shine before others! Reveal me.

3) Take the light to the world

Display your light everywhere - not just a Sunday morning

4) Shine together

Together we amplify light

Collectively take the light of Jesus

5) Live surrendered to God

Do everything to draw attention to God

Only one true light that can shine in the darkness

God calls us to partner with him

All of creation is a story of partnership, under Gods authority.

John 14, Jesus goes to the Father then sends the spirit to partner with us to take the light into the darkness;

- hope comes into despair

**WORSHIP:**

There's no one like Jesus / O come let us adore Him / Jesus Messiah / How Great Thou Art / In Christ Alone

**OUT:**

This year our Carol Services are worship evenings that will be brilliant to invite friends, family and neighbours to.

The worship team are putting a lot of effort to deliver an outstanding experience that will draw us to glorify Jesus and allow non-believers to hear the truth that the hope of the world came to save...through the Christmas story.

1) Please write down who you could invite

2) Now pray for them

3) how will you invite? (send them the link to book in/in person?)

Our vision for this advent series and the Carols service is that we see salvation every week. Please pray into this and invite people you know to come and hear the gospel.

- Go to our website, to the CALENDAR >> FEATURED EVENTS...pick the service you want to go to and book your tickets.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> @430pm - 530pm

Or Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> @730pm - 830pm

<https://www.jcceg.co.uk/calendar>