**Sermon Guide: *Christmas Invitation: You’re Invited to Become Children of Light***

**John 1:9-14, John 12:35-36 December 23, 2012 A.M.**

1) *“The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.” John 1:9*

 The following poem: *“Because One Child Is Born”* reflects on the impact of Jesus.

 *More light than we can learn,*

 *More wealth than we can treasure,*

 *More love than we can earn,*

 *More peace than we can measure,*

 *Because one Child is born.*

--Author Unknown, Preaching Today website, *12/2008*

In what ways has Christ given you light, spiritual treasure, love and peace?

2) *“Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going.” John 12:35*

 Light helps us navigate through life without crashing.

 How does the light of Jesus help Christian’s dealing with:

* The chance to retaliate (see Matthew 5:38-48)
* The opportunity to give generously (see Luke 12:32-34)
* The opportunity to serve sacrificially (see John 12: 23-26,John 13:1-17)
* “Unproductive, draining people” (see Luke 14:7-14)

3) *“So that you may become children of light” John 12:36b*

 *“We have seen his glory” John 1:14*

 *“And we, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being*

 *Transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory”*

Christian transformation comes through “contemplating” Jesus glory.

 The Hebrew word “glory” means weightiness or importance. We shine brighter

 As Christian’s to the degree we know Jesus importance and act on it.

 Reflect on your life, where have you experienced Jesus glory?

 Have you seen Jesus glory expressed through a fellow Christian? In what way?

 How has Jesus shaped you to express his glory?