

Scripture Reading: Mark 11:1-11

Instead of fighting the darkness, you bring the light. —Eckhart Tolle

One summer night in Alaska, a plane circled over a village almost 300 miles from Anchorage. The village was remote, but it had a small airport or at least a runway, so that planes could land, bringing provisions and products. The runway lights were always off, but pilots have a little gizmo they can use to turn the lights on.

Only, on this particular night, the gizmo didn't work, and people on the ground could not manually turn on the lights either.

This was a huge problem because the plane was a Medevac plane and at stake was a little girl's life.

So the villagers in the tribal community improvised. They got their SUVs, 4x4's, all-terrain vehicles to the rural airport, and they drove them into such positions that when they turned on their headlights, the runway was completely illuminated. At least 20 vehicles were involved.

The pilot of the LifeMed plane landed and later took off with the child onboard. They flew to an Anchorage hospital where the little girl recovered.

A light shining in darkness. That's how the Bible describes Jesus Christ: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ... The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world" (John 1:5, 9).

The people who cheered when Jesus came into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey were welcoming the Light. The prophet Isaiah had foretold the coming of this Light, when he wrote that "the people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned" (Isaiah 9:2 NIV). The gospel according to Matthew mentions this very text: "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned" (4:6).

Jesus is the light that illumines the paths and runways of our lives. His word provides guidance and understanding. His insight and truth show us the way.

And there's more: this same light now resides within us, so that we can channel it to others. We, too, can cast the true Light of the World upon those who wander in darkness. Rather than walking with others in their darkness, we can show them the way.

Let us be the light, be the Light of Christ for others.

—Timothy Merrill

Light of the World, fill my heart with light and love and give me the grace to share both with others. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Deuteronomy 1-3
- Monday:** Deuteronomy 4-6
- Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 7-9
- Wednesday:** Deut. 10-12
- Thursday:** Deut. 13-16
- Friday:** Deuteronomy 17-19
- Saturday:** Deut. 20-22

HIDDEN WORDS

Directions: Here are 10 words that can be rearranged to form another word. We've done the first one for you.

1. DECAL (laced)
2. WRONG
3. LIVED
4. LEMON
5. BURNT
6. THORN
7. LANCE
8. WASTE
9. MARCH
10. LEAST

MISSING LETTER!

Directions: Find the letter that's in the first word, but missing from the second word in CAPS in each set below. Write it on the line. Then, reading from the top down, find the word the letters spell and write it on the line below. Clue: This word describes how we should respond to God's Word.

In BROAD not DRAB _____

In BOOST not SOOT _____

In STEAM not MAST _____

In DRINK not RINK _____

In DAIRY not YARD _____

In EARTH not HART _____

In NEVER not EVER _____

In CROWD not WORD _____

In HEARD not HARD _____

Answers to Hidden Words (spelled backwards):

2. nworg, 3. lived,
4. nolem, 5. tnurb,
6. htron, 7. naelc,
8. taews, 9. mrahc,
10. laets

