

## Getting Ready for Sunday

Devotions for the week of June 19 through June 23

**Monday:** This week we'll be thinking about the idea that we are "light of the world." It is our job to share that Light with the rest of the world who live in darkness. We start our devotions this week by reading Genesis 1:1-5. You have read that the very first creation of God is light. Because the first thing that God did was create light, light has taken on a special significance in the scripture. Light comes to represent the goodness of God, which is often contrasted with the darkness of the world, otherwise known as evil. Lord, "You are light and in You is no darkness at all." Enable us, Your children to live in Your light. Amen.

**Tuesday:** Today we continue to read about our theme of light by reading John 1:1-5. Yesterday we saw that light, the first creation of God, has become a symbol of God's wonderful goodness. Today you have read that Jesus comes as the light of the world. He has become the physical manifestation of the goodness of God the Father. And, even though Jesus' death seems that God lost, the "darkness has not overcome his light." Jesus proves that the light has not been overcome by his resurrection. Not only did the light not lose the battle but the light has won the war in the death and resurrection of Jesus. So often in our world we see evil seeming to win. But Lord enable us to hold to the Good News that the darkness has not overcome the Light. God has won, let us celebrate by helping others to know that they have victory by their faith in Jesus. Amen.

**Wednesday:** Today we read from Matthew 5:14. Jesus is the light of the world but we also are the light of the world as we reflect the light of Jesus our Lord. A city set on a hill cannot be hid because the light of that city, even the light a candle, can be seen from it. Let our light so shine that others might give glory to God in heaven. Amen.

**Thursday:** Today we read from John 1:6-9. John came to testify to the light that was coming into the world, the light of Jesus. John was not the source of the light that he came to testify to, Just like we are not the source of the light. But he came to bear witness to that light that was coming to enlighten everyone. Yesterday we read that Jesus called us, his followers, the light of the world. We are only the light of the world as we testify to the light that we have seen in Jesus, as we reflect his light. Lord, help us like John did, to testify to the light that is Jesus Christ. As we do this we are fulfilling our purpose and call, just like John fulfilled his purpose and call. Amen.

**Friday:** Today we finish our reading on light by reading Matthew 5:15-16. When you have light in a dark world it makes absolutely no sense at all to hide that light. If you have light in a dark world the only thing that makes sense is to let it shine brightly so that its light can be seen and enable others to find their way. Lord enable us to never hide the light that we reflect from you. Let it always shine so it can be seen by others just like a city on a hill that can't be hid during the darkness of night. Amen.