The Christmas story is a BIG story. The Christmas story shines a powerful light into humanity. The Christmas story is the Jesus story. The Jesus story is the story that God Himself wants to tell us.

**It’s the Jesus story we celebrate at Christmas.**

Primary text: John 1:1-18

Word is translated as logos – simultaneously meaning:
- Inner thought of reason, science and planning (pondering, meditation)
- Outward expression – speech, message or actions

**FOR JOHN - JESUS WAS THE WORD OF GOD BECAUSE:**

1. Jesus put the nature and thoughts of God into words and actions (if you have seen Me you have seen the Father; I don’t do anything I didn’t see My Father do first).
2. All of the words and actions of Jesus, collected together, was a message from God to us

**FIRST LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS - THE LIGHT OF CREATION**

Creation is a JOLLY BIG LIGHT of in the world that is illuminating GOD

Jesus, as the Light of the world, is the Author of it all. In other words...The light of the world created the light in the world.

Can you see in Creation a light that is illuminating God?

**SECOND LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS...THE LIGHT OF RE-CREATION**

When the Word became flesh, the world witnessed the ultimate sacrifice of the Creator God. John had a revelation about Love through his understanding of this sacrifice. This revelation redefines the meaning of the word – LOVE. John saw that it was this type of sacrificial Love that motivated the nature of God and that LOVE is not truly LOVE unless it knows how to sacrifice.

**THESE TWO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ILLUMINATE TWO REALLY BIG MESSAGES FROM GOD:**

1. Jesus has always been and always will be your Source of Life
   John 10:10 – I came that you might have life, and life more abundantly.
   • The first time Jesus (as the Word) placed His feet on the earth – He gave humankind LIFE

2. All that Jesus is and all that He has done is a message from God to YOU

Heb. 1: 1-3 - God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power...

Jesus is the decisive message from God. His light shows us:
1. Who God is and what HE is like
2. How much He loves you and desires fellowship with you
3. Who you are meant to be – His Son or Daughter

Jesus is the Light of THE World...He is also the Light FOR YOUR WORLD

Christmas is when we thank Him and worship Him for His abundant life, extravagant grace and limitless love.

**Reflect:**

God’s Creation and Re-Creation gifts are perfect and complete in every way. Take a moment to deeply feel the weight and blessing of God’s gifts to you. What words of praise or worship come to mind as you sit in this moment?

What will your stance of worship be this Christmas? What could you do differently in your approach to Christmas this year that would allow you more moments of worship and celebration for the blessings God has extravagant-ly lavished on you?

How might this stance of worship alter your family gatherings?

Knowing that Jesus is both the Creator of Life and also abundant LIFE, as you think about 2016, how will you take the LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS into the coming year? How will you engage with Him more fully and deeply, to draw more of His PROMISED LIFE into your personal and relational worlds?