

Follow The Light

Becoming the Light: Kory Cassell and Craig Rees **Main Auditorium & Chapel | 17 December 2023**

Scriptures: Matthew 5:14-16; John 8:12; 12:36; John 1:5; Psalm 27:1

Big Idea: We receive the light to become children of the light and reflect God's glory to the world.

1. Read John 12:36. Jesus directly asserts His identity as the light and promises that those who believe in Him will become children of the light. How does the phrase 'believe in the light' underscore the intimate connection between receiving Christ and becoming children of light? What would you say is involved in 'believing the light'?
2. How would you describe the difference, if there is one, between 'becoming children of the light' and 'following Jesus' and 'having the light of life'?
3. For Jesus, the question is not whether his followers are the light of the world but what kind of light we will be. Read Matthew 5:14-16. How do you understand the implications of these verses for your life?
4. Read Matthew 5:16 and Matthew 6:1. How would you describe the tension between these two verses?
5. In Matthew 5:16, what does it mean for believers individually in the message to let their light shine "before others," and how does this concept challenge personal engagement with the world?
6. Has your faith journey unfolded in a pattern like this? 1. Recognizing Jesus as the light, 2. Becoming a child of the light through faith, 3. Walking daily in discipleship by following Jesus, and now, 4. Becoming a source of light to others. How has your experience differed? Is it always this sequential?
7. The message talked about the importance of angling our 'mirrors' (lives) towards God and others. What do you do to get the balance right between deepening your intimacy with God and your connection with others?
8. In discussing the church as a collection of mirrors reflecting God's light, what challenge and responsibility does the text present to local churches