

# Light has come 光來了

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Good morning everyone. How great do the Christmas lights look? I'm really thankful to the team for working hard to set this all up.

大家，早安。這裡的聖誕燈飾看起來真棒？我真的很感謝有份參與佈置的弟兄姊妹的努力合作來完成這一切。

It's a bit of a strange thing to set up lights in the southern hemisphere at Christmas time though. 不過，在聖誕節期間在南半球設置燈光是有點奇怪。

The tradition comes from Australia's European heritage, where Christmas is the darkest time of the year. And so lights are put up because of the season to light the way.

聖誕的張燈結綵是源自澳大利亞的歐洲傳統，因為聖誕節是在一年中黑夜最長的時期。因此，由於季節的原因，要張燈結綵來照亮道路。

But there's something symbolic in it. Not just because we need to see, but we don't like the dark. As children, we're afraid of the things that go bump in the night. Suburbs put lights up to reduce crime. Light makes us feel safe. Rates of depression follow the season, increasing as the dark increases. And the lack of light has a palpable impact on us as humans.

其中也有一些象徵意義。不僅僅是因為我們需要照明，而且是因為我們不喜歡黑暗。作為孩子，我們害怕在夜間會碰上怪東西。社區增加照明以減少犯罪。光讓我們感到安全。抑鬱症的發生率隨季節變化，隨著黑暗的增加而增加。缺乏光線對我們人類產生了明顯的影響。

But this attitude of putting lights up in the dark is symbolic of where we are as a people. We think we can fix the darkness—the darkness of the world and in our hearts.

這種在黑暗中點亮燈光的態度也象徵著我們作為一個人的心態。我們認為我們可以修復黑暗…在世界中和我們心中的黑暗。

We can be the agents of change. We have light in us to do it! The optimistic view is just that. We can fix all of humanities problems. But the pessimist says that all you have to do is watch the news. People have been hurting each other for thousands of years. Nothing will ever change.

我們可以成為變革的推動者。我們心中有光可以做到！樂觀的觀點就是這樣。我們可以解決所有人文的問題。但在於悲觀者會說，你只要看看新聞便知道，人們互相傷害了幾千年，什麼都不會改變。

Not sure which of those you are more likely to be. I change between the two of them.

不知在這兩者之間您更有可能是哪一個。我在它們之間是一時一樣。

Suppose the light doesn't come from within us, tempted to be desperate. No hope. Humanity is doomed.

假如光不是來自我們內心，我們會絕望。沒有希望。人類註定滅亡。

But what John 1 and Isaiah 9 show, which was just read for us, is that there is a third way. One where we can see the world as terrible and dark, but also that there is a light. We need the light that comes not from within us but from outside of us.

但是剛剛為我們閱讀的《約翰福音》1章和《以賽亞書》9章表明，還有第三條路。在那裡我們可以看到世界既可怕又黑暗，但也有光明。我們需要的光不是來自我們內心，而是從我們以外而來。

We need the Light to Come, Jesus himself, to light our darkened hearts and this darkened world.

我們需要光的到來，耶穌本人，去照亮我們黑暗的心和這個黑暗的世界。

And a strange thing happens for those that follow Jesus the light. It's the opposite of a tan from being in the light, the sun. The light of Jesus doesn't make us darker, but we become light to others.

對於那些跟隨那真光耶穌的人來說，一件奇怪的事情發生了。這與在陽光下曬黑相反。耶穌的光不會讓我們變得更黑，但我們會成為別人的光。

### **Context 語境**

It's a new series. It's Christmas. It always creeps up on me and surprises me.

這是一個新的系列。是聖誕節。它總是悄悄地出現在我們面前，讓我感到驚訝。

This series shows that light has come. God himself has come, and now we can see because of Jesus because we are blind and can see without him

這個系列表明光已經來臨。神親自來了，現在我們因耶穌而能看見，因為我們是瞎眼的，沒有他就不能看見。

### **Challenge 挑戰**

What does it mean that Jesus is light? And our challenge today will be for us to be light to a dark world.

耶穌是光是什麼意思？我們今天的挑戰將是讓我們成為黑暗世界的光明。

### **1. Darkness 黑暗**

It can often seem like Christmas is for the kids. Presents, the decorations. The food is all aimed at the kids and families. But Isaiah 9 shows who Christmas is and who the light is for.

聖誕節看起來通常是為孩子們準備的。禮物，裝飾品。食物都是針對孩子和家庭的。但是《以賽亞書》第9章顯示了聖誕節和那光是為誰而設的。

Isaiah 9:1-2

《以賽亞書》9:1-2

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future, he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—The people walking in

darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned.

但那受過痛苦的必不再見幽暗。從前上帝使西布倫地和拿弗他利地被藐視，末後卻使這沿海的路，約旦河東，外邦人居住的加利利地得榮耀。在黑暗中行走的百姓看見了大光；住在死蔭之地的人有光照耀他們。

Gloom. Distress. Darkness. It's not really family-friendly, hallmark movie vibes. But it's a description of the area of Galilee. Because Galilee was geographically the front door of the nation of Israel where invading foreign armies would turn up.

幽暗。窘迫。黑暗。這不是真正適合家庭的、標誌性的電影氛圍。但這是對加利利地的描述。因為加利利在地理上是以色列國的前門，入侵的外國軍隊會出現在那裡。

This message is for the broken and downcast, and oppressed. God is going to honour this town of Galilee in a special way.

此信息是給破碎、沮喪和受壓迫的人。上帝要以一種特殊的方式來使加利利地得榮耀。

Galilee, described in verse 2, In darkness.

加利利，在第2節中被描述為，在黑暗中。

The bible describes the world as stuck in darkness—both in terms of evil and ignorance. We'd use the same language. We'd say about ignorance – I'm in the dark, I don't know what's going on. Evil, we'd say black-hearted, they have darkness, gone to the Darkside. In Chinese, say a similar thing, ?? to describe a black heart.

聖經將世界描述為陷入了黑暗的。無論是邪惡還是無知。我們會使用相同的語言。談到無知，我們會說…我被蒙在鼓裡，毫不知情，不知道發生了什麼。邪惡的，我們會說黑心，他們是黑暗的，走向了黑暗。用中文說類似的話，形容黑心。

You don't have to look much further than what was happening in the time when Jesus was born. It was a dark world, filled with darkened hearts.

你不必去看比耶穌出生時發生的更久遠的事情。那是一個黑暗的世界，充滿了黑暗的心。

Jesus' birth was a time of violence and injustice, abuse of power and homelessness, refugees fleeing oppression and families ripped apart, filled with grief.

耶穌誕生時是一個充滿暴力和不公正、濫用權力和無家可歸、逃離壓迫的難民和充滿悲傷的家庭四分五裂的時期。

But that world isn't actually all that different from ours. We see the fark and long for the light, for justice and safety and protection from evil. Humans have a longing and love of light, of salvation, that we think that we can fix the problems around us. Innovation and technology, and cultural understand will fix all the problems of war and racism.

但那個世界實際上與我們的世界並沒有什麼不同。我們看到遠方，渴望光明，渴望正義、安全和遠離邪惡。人類對光、拯救有著渴望和熱愛，我們認為我們可以解決我們周圍的問題。創新和技術以及文化理解將解決戰爭和種族主義的所有問題。

We hold up stories like Christmas day in world war 2, when the battle lines between the Germans and the English stopped for 1 day, and they played football. And we say, Yes! We can do it, we can end all war, there is light within humans to fix it.

我們高舉第二次世界大戰中聖誕節前後的故事，當時德國人和英國人之間的戰線停止了一天，他們一起踢足球。我們就說，是的！我們可以做到，我們可以結束所有戰爭，人類內心有光明可以解決黑暗。

But then the footballers went back to war for the other 364 days of the year. And as much as we like to think that we are more evolved, less racist, less violent. Oppression and violence are still rampant 2,000 years on from Jesus.

但那些踢足球的在一年中的其他 364 天裡繼續重新開戰。儘管我們喜歡認為我們更進化，更少種族主義，更少暴力。在耶穌之後的 2000 年裡，壓迫和暴力仍然猖獗。

No one knows how to cure suffering and evil. At the end of chapter 8 of Isaiah, the people try to. They consult magicians and mediums instead of God. The chapter finishes “they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom.”

沒有人知道如何治愈痛苦和邪惡。在《以賽亞書》第 8 章的結尾，人們試圖這樣做。他們求問招魂的與行巫術的而不是上帝。那章結束時說，「他仰觀上天，俯察下地，看哪，盡是艱難、黑暗和駭人的昏暗。」

Nothing has changed. We still look to human resources to fix the world.

什麼也沒有變。我們仍然期待以人力資源來修復世界。

I'm told by my wife who loves a Christmas movie that a common plot is that love will conquer all. At Christmas it's a time to put differences aside and be a world of peace and love. People come together to fix a Christmas need. But that's not the message of Christmas.

我喜歡聖誕電影的妻子告訴我，一個共同的情節是愛會征服一切。在聖誕節，是時候把分歧放在一邊，成為一個和平與愛的世界。人們聚集在一起解決聖誕節的需求。但這不是聖誕節的信息。

Here from Isaiah 9 the message is that it's dark. The world is evil and ignorant. Not even realising how bad things are. That's one of the reasons social media is having such a negative impact on peoples lives, because we are now able to see just how evil the world is.

《以賽亞書》第 9 章的信息是黑暗。世界是邪惡而無知的。甚至沒有意識到事情有多糟糕。這就是社交媒體對人們的生活產生如此負面影響的原因之一，因為我們現在能夠看到世界是多麼邪惡。

Thinking that humanity can save itself just leads to more darkness.

認為人類可以自救只會導致更多的黑暗。

So the message of Christmas cannot be – let's be united, and peaceful and love, and the spirit of Christmas will bring us together. We grow up and learn about the parts of Christmas that are just stories and fairy tales, but we want to hold on to the view that the light is in us, and that if it's the right time of year, it's Christmas, the Christmas spirit can help heal the world.

所以聖誕節的信息不可能是——讓我們團結起來，和平與愛，聖誕節的精神將會把我們結合在一起。我們長大了並了解到所認識的有關聖誕節的部分，都只是故事和童話故事，但我們仍想堅持有光在我們心中這樣的觀點，如果是一年中的正確時間，那就是聖誕節，聖誕精神可以幫助治愈世界。

But the opposite message isn't true. It's not true that we are stuck in darkness, that we should just give in, become apathetic and not care about what's going on.

但相反的信息是不正確的。我們被困在黑暗中，我們應該屈服，變得冷漠而不關心正在發生的事情，這是不正確的。

Instead, the message of Christmas is that the world is dark, but the light has come. Things are bad, really bad, but there is a hope that has come.

相反，聖誕節的信息是世界是黑暗的，但光明已經到來。事情很糟糕，真的很糟糕，但有一個希望已經到來。

But there is hope, and it's a baby.

有一個希望，這希望是一個嬰孩。

## 2. Light 光

Isaiah 9:6 says,

《以賽亞書》9:6 說，

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

6 因有一嬰孩為我們而生；有一子賜給我們。政權必擔在他的肩頭上；他名稱為「奇妙策士、全能的上帝、永在的父、和平的君」。

Isaiah 9 not only tells us who this light is, but also how we get it.

《以賽亞書》9 章不僅告訴我們這光是誰，還告訴我們如何得到它。

This light, Jesus the son of God born to die on the cross, he is given to us. This light that comes to our darkened sinful hearts, the light that comes to reveal who we really are and reveals God himself, this light is given to us. The only way you can receive it is to admit it's a gift that comes from grace. It's a gift we don't deserve.

這光，上帝的兒子耶穌是為了要死在十字架上而生，他是賜給我們的。這來到我們黑暗有罪的心中，揭示我們的真實身份並揭示上帝自己的光是賜給我們的。你能接受它的唯一方法就是承認它是來自恩典的禮物。是我們不配得到的禮物。

Christmas is about receiving presents, but this is a gift that is really hard to receive. If you've ever been in financial trouble and someone has offered a chunk of money to help you out, it means you have to swallow your pride.

聖誕節是關於收禮物，但這是一份很難收到的禮物。如果你曾經陷入財務困境並且有人提供了一大筆錢來幫助你，這意味著你必須放下你的驕傲。

Or imagine it's Christmas morning, and you're opening presents, and there's a book called "how to properly put on make up for your face shape". What do you mean, why did you get me this? Or peel back the tape, opening the wrapping and there's a book from another friend called "how to get over yourself and your own pride", what! So you open a card instead and there's an unasked for gym membership. You grab something out of the stocking and it is rogaïne to grow back hair.

或者想像現在是聖誕節的早晨，你正在打開禮物，有一本書叫「如何正確地為你的臉型化妝」。你是什麼意思，你為什麼要給我這個禮物？或者撕開膠帶，打開包裝，還有另一位朋友送了一本書，叫做「如何克服自己和自己的驕傲」，什麼！所以你打開一張卡，卻收到了一張你沒有要求的健身房會員卡。你從襪子裡拿出其他禮物，當中有讓你重長頭髮的藥品。

Now you could get angry at this. But these gifts are hard to receive. To receive them you have to admit you have flaws and weakness and you need help. That you're terrible at putting on make up, that you're arrogant and hard to be around, or balding. Have to swallow pride and admit need help.

現在你可能會為此生氣。但是這些禮物很難接受。要接受它們，您必須承認自己有缺陷和弱點，並且需要幫助。你化妝很糟糕，你很傲慢，很難相處，或者禿頂。不得不吞下驕傲並承認需要幫助。

That's what Christmas means. I'm flawed. I'm weak. My heart is dark. The culture I'm living in is darkened and sends me scurrying around in the dark. And I can't pull myself together. I need this Christmas gift, I need to be saved by grace.

這就是聖誕節的意義。我有缺陷。我很弱。我的心是黑暗的。我所生活的文化是黑暗的，讓我在黑暗中四處亂竄。我無法振作起來。我需要這份聖誕禮物，我需要靠恩典得救。

I'm in desperate need of this Child, God's son given to us. Isaiah 6 title; The title of Jesus here is amazing.

我非常需要這個孩子，這個賜給我們的上帝的兒子。《以賽亞書》6章中給耶穌的稱號是驚人的。

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

奇妙策士、全能的上帝、永在的父、和平的君

He's the wonderful counsellor. God became flesh, he knows what it's like to be frail and human, If God was really born in a manger, he is a God who understands us from the inside, he's had the same experiences. There's no other religion that says their God suffered just like his people. Jesus knew what it was like to be courageous in the face of suffering, to be abandoned by friends and alone, to be crushed by injustice, tortured and die. How amazing that we can take our burdens to him.

他是那位奇妙策士。道成肉身的神，他知道軟弱和人性是什麼感覺，如果神真的出生在馬槽裡，他是一個從內心理解我們的神，他也有過同樣的經歷。沒有其他宗教說他們的神像祂的信徒一樣受苦。耶穌知道在苦難面前勇敢、被朋友拋棄和孤獨、被不公正壓垮、折磨和死亡是什麼感覺。我們能把重擔交給他，真是太神奇了。

But if he's also Mighty God and everlasting father that means he created the world. And it's easy at Christmas time to like the story of the baby born in the manger. But people didn't just like Jesus. They either loved and worshipped and followed him, or they hated him and wanted him dead.

但如果他也是全能的上帝和永在的父，那就意味著他創造了世界。在聖誕節期間，很容易喜歡馬槽裡出生的嬰兒的故事。但是人們不只是喜歡耶穌。他們要么愛他、崇拜他、跟隨他，要么恨他並希望他死。

Tim Keller makes the wonderful point that it's too limiting, too small to say that we celebrate Jesus being born at Christmas. We should stare dumbstruck, lost in wonder.

蒂姆·凱勒 (Tim Keller) 提出了一個很好的觀點，我們說在聖誕節慶祝耶穌出生是太局限，太小了。我們應該目瞪口呆，不知所措。

You know that feeling when you see a really wonderful Christmas light display. You could spend hours there. And there's an ice-cream van and a coffee van that pulls up next to it because everyone is amazed by it. We take photos and share them, look at this display.

就像當您看到非常精彩的聖誕燈飾時的那種感覺。你可以在那裡待上幾個小時。有一輛冰淇淋車和一輛咖啡車也停在它旁邊，因為每個人都對它感到驚訝。我們拍照並分享它們，看看這個展示。

How much more the true light of Christmas, Jesus himself.

更何況是聖誕節的真光，耶穌本人。

### 3. Reflections. 反思

John 1:9 says that Jesus is the light, but also that he is going to give the light. The light that we so desire to have and be and shine to others. That light comes from Jesus and then his disciples.

《約翰福音》1:9 說，耶穌是那真光，而且他將要發光照亮所有的人。我們渴望擁有、成為和照亮他人的光。那光來自耶穌，然後是他的門徒。

Jesus, in Matthew 5:14-16 says,

耶穌在《馬太福音》5:14-16 中說，

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

14 你們是世上的光。城造在山上是不能隱藏的。15 人點燈，不放在斗底下，而是放在燈臺上，就照亮一家的人。16 你們的光也要這樣照在人前，叫他們看見你們的好行為，把榮耀歸給你們在天上的父。」

Jesus says that we, the church are the light of the world. We have seen the light, Jesus, and we get to take this light to the diverse city of Chatswood, to our families, to our frontlines.

耶穌說我們教會是世上的光。我們已經看到了光，耶穌，我們可以將這光帶到車士活這個多元化的城市、我們的家人和我們的前線。

One way to understand this is that we are like the moon.

理解這一點的一種方式是，我們就像月亮。

The moon has no light of it's own. The Sun sets. The light goes. But the moon reflects the sun's light to us, and we can still see.

月亮沒有自己的光。夕陽西下。光走了。但是月亮將太陽的光反射給我們，我們仍然可以看到。

We are the moon. We are to bask in the glory of Jesus, and shine that out, no matter how dimly to the people around us. So that people realise they're in darkness.

我們是月亮。我們要沐浴在耶穌的榮耀中，並把它照耀出來，無論我們周圍的人多麼黯淡。讓人們意識到他們在黑暗中。

The sun has gone, but it's light still shines on us.

太陽已經過去了，但它的光仍然照耀著我們。

The Son has gone to heaven, but his light still shines from us.

聖子已升天，但祂的光仍從我們身上照耀。

Light shines against darkness, reveals things for what they are, gets rid of deception and half truths.

光明照耀黑暗，揭示事物的本來面目，擺脫欺騙和半真半假。

Jesus in Matthew 5 called us to let the light shine so that people would see our good deeds.

耶穌在《馬太福音》第5章呼召我們要让照在人前，叫他們看見你們的好行為。

Just this last week, we set up the Christmas lights. We want the church building to be noticed so that people say Wow, look at that light on a hill.

就在這週，我們設置了聖誕燈飾。我們希望教堂建築能引起人們的注意，這樣人們就會說哇，看看山上的那盞燈。

But how much more do we want all of Chatswood, our frontlines, our families to see our good deeds of love, and generosity, forgiveness, how we go out of our way to shine light of Jesus into peoples lives?

但我們更希望車士活、我們的前線、我們的家人看到我們的愛心、慷慨、寬恕，的好行為，我們如何竭盡全力將耶穌的光芒照進人們的生命？

So we can be the moon to people. Don't look at me, I'm loving you because I'm loved by someone wonderful.

所以我們可以成為人們的月亮。別只看我，我愛你，因為我被一個了不起的人愛著。

I have 3 encouragements of what it could look like to be the Light of Jesus.

我對成為耶穌之光的樣子有3點鼓勵。



### 1. From Matthew 5, Don't hide your light.

從《馬太福音》第5章開始，不要隱藏你的光。

Imagine you were stuck in the dark, stumbling around stubbing toes and shins, and someone knew where the light switch was! Don't be that person. People are stuck in darkness without us, ignorant of Jesus.

想像一下，你被困在黑暗中，在腳趾和小腿處磕磕絆絆，但有人知道電燈開關在哪裡！不要成為那個人。人們被困在沒有我們的黑暗中，對耶穌一無所知。

### 2. Take your light where it's dark

把你的光帶到黑暗的地方

I'm going to be giving these out to my neighbours this week. But not only that, take your light, your good deeds to where it's dark. Have eyes for lost and hurting people. Sharing the good news of Jesus is what we should be doing, invite people to Christmas here with us. But also sit with them in grief, offer help or food.

這週我要把這些發給我的鄰居。但不僅如此，把你的光，你的好行為帶到黑暗的地方。留意那些迷失和受傷的人。分享耶穌的好消息是我們應該做的，邀請人們來這裡和我們一起過聖誕節。但也要去與他們坐在一起悲傷，提供幫助或食物。

Great to see our church pack boxes of food for toys and tucker. But who do you know, what person in your community could use a display of love.

很高興看到我們的教會為「玩具和食物」運動包裝食品盒。但你知道有誰，你社區中有哪些人需要我們去表達關愛。

### 3. Shine together

一起發光

You might not be feeling like the fullest moon reflecting the light of the son, Jesus. Might be feeling eclipsed by your own struggles and world. So take another light with you. What could your community group do, who could your family love. How can we get together to shine light on mission for Jesus.

您可能感覺不像是反射兒子耶穌之光的滿月。可能會因為自己的掙扎和世界而感到黯然失色。所以帶上另一盞燈。您的社群小組可以做什麼，您一家可向誰以愛對待。我們怎樣才能聚在一起為耶穌的使命發光。

We as a church can have an impact together.

我們作為一個教會可以一起產生影響。

### Conclusion 結論

At Christmas time we love to celebrate light. But this year, let's reflect more on Jesus, so we can reflect him to the world.

在聖誕節的時候，我們喜歡慶祝光明。但是今年，讓我們更多地反省耶穌，這樣我們就可以向世界反映他。