

## God with Us Brings Love

### Day 8 LIGHT, LIFE AND LOVE

**In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. (John 1:4)**

Have you ever tried sleeping in a new place and been annoyed by that one little light that seems to illuminate the whole room? Or maybe you have left a phone or electronic gadget plugged in somewhere in your bedroom and wondered what was causing such a bright blue glow. It's amazing how much the smallest point of light can brighten the darkest of spaces.

The life of God that Jesus brought to earth was just such a gift: "the light of all mankind," John called it. It appeared in Bethlehem as a tiny, seemingly insignificant spark of a humble baby. It grew into the focus of a laser beam, and it appeared to be snuffed out at Jesus' crucifixion. Instead, it detonated and spread with the power of a supernatural sun bringing God's life, forgiveness, and love to all humanity. The gift of Jesus, God's only son, was God's sacrificial and triumphant act of love (John 3:16). During the Advent season, we can look at His light, we can share His love, and we can celebrate His life, which he offers and shares with us. And even in the hardships we face and witness in the world around us, we can remember this: Light shines brightest in the dark. Love beams brightest among hate. Life stands out the most boldly against death.

**Where do you see the sparks of God's love shining around you? How do you most feel God's love during the Christmas season? What small act of love can you choose to shine a "spark of the light of all mankind" during Advent?**