

be born in us today | *praying a Christmas prayer*

Born of God

John 1:9-13

December 4, 2022

Introduction: How does Christmas move from history into your life? That's what God wants for you and each of us. That's why it happened. Philips Brooks offers us a prayer in the classic hymn he wrote during a crisis in his own life: "O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today." This Advent we pray that prayer together and discover what the Bible tells us about how we let God answer it.

Prayer: Father, the true light has given each of us light. Help us with this text to understand that gift. Amen

Read: John 1:9-13

Review: Did you learn anything new about Jesus from his remaining in Jerusalem at age 12?

Discussion:

1. Are there any limitations on the true light? Explain.
2. Why did the world not recognize him? Nor his own not receive him? – A mystery.
3. What does it mean to become children of God?
4. Does this text help you to see yourself in a "different light"?

Application: This week, live in the light that you have been given from Jesus.

Prayer: Father, thank you for the reminder that Jesus, the true light, came into the world on a rescue mission. Amen.