



## Discussion Guide for “Christmas Lights”

### *O Christmas Tree Week 2*

Christmas lights are one of our most beautiful symbols of the season. But as the prophet Micah points out, light reveals and purifies. In our preparation for Christmas, God wants to purify us, get us ready for Jesus' coming. Will we respond? Or will we hide?

#### **Scriptures for Further Reading**

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-70; Luke 3:1-6; Philippians 1:3-11

[Click here](#) to read all scriptures

#### **Passage for Sacred Reading:**

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [Luke 1:57-80](#).

#### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Share a disappointment you've had in the Christmas season. Why are such memories hard to share during this time?
2. Consider the metaphor of light. When is light something we welcome? When is it something we shy away from?
3. Malachi was a prophet shortly after the return from Exile. Would you have been a family that was returning or one that never left? How would each group experience disappointment?
4. Revisit Malachi's words in chapter 3. How did his words challenge each group? What promise did they hold?
5. What does it look like to find God in the midst of your preparations for Christmas this week? How can you make space for the Holy Spirit?