

# SPARK SUNDAY SCHOOL

ACTIVATE FAITH

## UPPER ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION



### Light of the World

Lesson Focus: I'm Going to Let Love Shine

Scripture Reference: **John 3:14-21**

Spark Story Bible Pg. 416

### GATHER

Get out some play clay (preferably blue) and some cookie cutters. As you work the clay, check in with your highs and lows and look at images of constellations and talk about what we see in our daytime and nighttime skies.

**Our story today tells us that God sent Jesus to light up the world!**

**Prayer:** Dear God, as children of your light, you show us the way when we get lost. Help us be a light to other people: our family, our friends, our neighbors, and the whole world. Amen.

### STORY

Look up **John 3:14-21** in the **NRSV** and listen along on our website. Or turn to **page 416** in the **Spark Story Bible**.

Today's Bible story is called **The Light of the World**. It's about someone who had a lot of questions. So, he went to talk to someone who had a lot of answers! Who were these two people? Let's open our Spark Story Bibles to find out.

### Story Reflection Questions:

- When did Nicodemus visit Jesus?
- Why did God send Jesus into the world?
- What is one question that you would like to ask Jesus?

### RESPOND

#### Heart to Heart Conversation

- When we're on the Internet, how do other people know who we really are? (*They have to trust us.*)
- How do we know who other people really are?
- How can this be dangerous?
- Are there times in real life when we see the end-result of something done by someone anonymously (without knowing who they are)?
- What are the consequences of doing something hurtful or abusive online? Are there any?
- What can we do to be safe in a world where not everyone is who they claim to be?
- What's easier, hiding things online, or in real life?
- Why do we hide stuff?
- What are we afraid of?

# RESPOND

We usually think of the Internet as a place of light and information, but it can easily be a place of misinformation, too. Today, we hear Jesus talk about the difference between living in light and living in darkness. We also hear about how Jesus is the light that shines in the dark!

Find an activity in your leaflet or among the activity pages that you would like to complete.

We all have times in our lives that feel really dark. Our faith in Jesus is a great reminder that God's love shines on us all the time. Jesus is the light of the world that breaks through all the darkness. How might you reflect Jesus' light this week?



# SEND

## Responding to God's Word

*These are ways God uses us to come back for others!  
Sometimes the best way to come back is to go out!*

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to:

- \_\_\_ Ask you questions about God
- \_\_\_ Guess how many lightbulbs are in your home and then count them.
- \_\_\_ Look at the stars with you
- \_\_\_ Eat dinner by candle light
- \_\_\_ Think of someone who is your hero and let them know what you think about them.
- \_\_\_ Take a night time walk with a flashlight
- \_\_\_ Put together a home emergency kit that includes a flashlight
- \_\_\_ Write out the Highlight Verse **John 3:16** & doodle around it in your Faith Formation Journal
- \_\_\_ Write out the Highlight Verse **John 3:16** and place it somewhere you will see it often
- \_\_\_ Give you a big hug!
- \_\_\_ Invite you to worship with you (online) or invite them to @Sunday School with you
- \_\_\_ Pray for \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Say "I'm sorry" \_\_\_\_\_ My own idea: \_\_\_\_\_

# PRAY

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine on me, please!