

## Sermon Outline

December 7

“Why Did Christ Come? – Victory!”

Luke 11:14-28

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The story of Gideon

Spiritual banditry

“To destroy the Works of the Devil” (I John 3:8b)

The Kingdom of Heaven has come upon you!

## Points to Ponder to Prepare

December 14

“Why Did Christ Come? – Truth!”

John 18:28-38a

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Jesus is the “Light of the World”! At least part of what this means is that things that were obscure or wrapped in shadows are fully exposed and can be seen plainly for what they really are. The Enemy’s lies and deception thrive and grow in dark places, but die in the light. Jesus came to show us the truth!

Consider the following passages:

✠ Matthew 5:17-20

✠ John 9:1-41

- What does the Law (and the whole Old Testament) represent? What does it tell us?
- What does it mean that Jesus came to “fulfill” them?
- Think symbolically about Jesus doing miracles to heal the blind? What does blindness represent? What does it mean to see clearly for the first time?
- Why does Jesus say he came in John 9:39?

✠ Read Isaiah 9:1-2. Simply delight in the wonder and beauty of the prophecy. Send time giving Jesus some praise that he is the light of our lives and the Light of the World.

## Scripture readings for the week

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday December 7    | I John 2:18 – 3:6 |
| Monday December 8    | I John 3:7-24     |
| Tuesday December 9   | I John 4:1-21     |
| Wed December 10      | I John 5:1-21     |
| Thursday December 11 | II John 1-13      |
| Friday December 12   | III John 1-14     |
| Saturday December 13 | Jude 1-25         |
| Sunday December 14   | Revelation 1:1-20 |

## Prayer Focus

Our prayer focus this week is for folks in our church and our neighborhood who experience the season of holidays very differently from the traditional “Norman Rockwell” or “Thomas Kincaid” imagery.

- ✠ If you gather in a warm home, remember those who are cold.
- ✠ If you have a plentiful table set before you, remember the hungry.
- ✠ If you shop, remember the poor.
- ✠ If you spend time in fun and laughter with loved ones, remember the grieving who have an empty place.

Consider how we might go simply beyond praying for our neighbors, but showing love and kindness this Advent season.