

指向耶稣的光

耶稣说：“我是世界的光。跟从我的，就不在黑暗里走，必要得着生命的光。”(约翰福音 8:12)

孩子们，圣诞节到了。这个圣诞节，我们的故事就从光开始。我们什么时候需要光？是白天的时候吗？当然不是，在黑暗中我们才需要光，因为我们看不见。当真的很黑的时候，即使是最微弱的光线也能被看到。想象有盏灯照耀在你身上，除了你没有别人，单单照在你身上。当光线像这样照在你身上时，你就在聚光灯下。当你在聚光灯下时，所有的目光都聚焦在你身上。



在第一个圣诞节的晚上，上帝在天空中放了一颗特别亮的星星来闪耀他的光芒。这光就像一个聚光灯，一个指针，帮助每个人看到上帝想让他们看到的东西。因为它就像一个聚光灯，光线没有指向其他任何地方，它只指向伯利恒。此光也不指向任何其他人，它只指向耶稣，神的爱子，告诉全世界说：“看哪，他在这里，我的儿子在这里，我唯一的宝贝儿子！”



在我们进入故事的这一部分之前，让我们先回到故事真正开始的地方。几个月前，在拿撒勒镇，另一道亮光出现了。这一次，这光不是来自于星星，是天使送来的。想象一下，马利亚过着平常的一天，突然，天使出现了！更让人惊奇的是，这可不是普通的天使，他是一位强大的天使——加百列，上帝信任的使者。



想象一下，你第一次见到一位天使，听到天使说：“你好，主与你同在，他认为你特别！”马利亚一定看起来很困惑，因为天使说：“不要害怕，马利亚！主对你很满意，他要以一种特别的方式祝福你。你将要生一个孩子，一个漂亮的男孩。他的名字要叫耶稣，就是神应许的救主，他自己的爱子。”虽然这个福音太伟大、太奇妙、太奇妙了，马利亚无法完全理解，但她相信她所听到的好消息，回答说：“我是耶和华的仆人。让一切发生在我身上，正如你所说的。”然后天使突然消失了，就像他来的时候一样。

从那以后，事情对马利亚来说变得非常有趣。她怀孕了，正如天使所说的，但这让她的未婚夫约瑟很不高兴。“马利亚肚子里的孩子是谁的？我知道那不是我的。”约瑟说。有主的使者从梦中向约瑟显现，说：“约瑟，不要惧怕！不要害怕娶马利亚为妻。她体内的男婴来自圣灵。他是神的儿子。当他出生时，称他为‘耶稣’，意思是‘救主’，因为他将把自己的人民从罪恶中拯救出来。”

九个月后，当她的孩子快要出生的时候，马利亚和约瑟外出旅行去伯利恒。当马利亚和约瑟到了伯利恒的时候，伯利恒挤满了游客，所有的旅店都住满了人。“对不起，”客栈老板说，“没有房间，今天没有你的房间了。”“但是我妻子的孩子马上就要出生了，她真的需要个地方住。”约瑟恳求道。你猜客栈老板会怎么说？“没有，没有房间，请出去。”于是，马利亚和约瑟就来到了一个马厩，那里给动物住的，而不是给人住的地方。在那里，有奶牛在哞哞叫，山羊在咩咩叫，鸡在咯咯叫。



就在那漆黑的、可能还很臭的马厩中间，半夜里，上帝的儿子诞生了，一个裹着布的小婴儿，世界的救世主，神给我们最宝贵的礼物已经到了。马利亚和约瑟把小耶稣放进盛满干草的马槽里，他是那么漂亮，那么小！这么小的人儿能成为我们所有人的救世主吗？但马利亚和约瑟知道这不是一个普通的婴儿，这是个带应许的婴孩——以马内利，上帝与我们同在，成为我们中的一员了。



那天晚上，上帝在天上放了一颗特别亮的星星，它的光芒比任何星星任何人所见过的星星都要明亮。像一个巨大的聚光灯，照亮了黑暗，指向耶稣。上帝高兴极了，他想要分享这个好消息。有一些普通的牧羊人，在夜间看守着羊群，突然天空出现了一道亮光。哇，耶和华的天使，被耶和华的荣光四面照着，就在他们眼前。他们吓坏了。天使对他们说：“不要惧怕！我给你们带来好消息，这对你们和整个世界都是好消息：今晚，在大卫城，你们的救世主诞生了。你们必看见一个裹着布的婴孩卧在马槽里。”然后更多的天使出现了！不是一个，也不是两个，而是许许多多天使！发光的天使们正在唱诗赞美上帝——“在至高之处荣耀归与神！，在地上平安归于他所喜悦的人！”



天使离开后，你猜牧羊人会做什么？当然是马上跑去寻找这位救世主拉。他们一路跑到伯利恒，在那里找到了他。“看，”牧羊人喘着气说，“马槽里的婴儿，正如天使所说的那样。”尤其是，那颗星又大又亮，在那个黑暗安静的夜晚，就像聚光灯照在耶稣身上。



在遥远的东方，有三位智者也看到了那颗星星。“看，”他们说，“看那颗星星!它在那里。我们一直在等候的王就在那里!” 这三位智者背起行李，装上骆驼，马上出发。日复一日，他们一直跟着那颗星来到耶路撒冷，但是他们要寻找的婴儿不在耶路撒冷。他们就继续跟着那星走，到了伯利恒，遇见了婴孩耶稣。“这就是我们要找的王。”智者们一个接一个地拿出礼物——金子、乳香、没药……所有这些贵重的宝物，都是献给王的，然后他们都跪了下来，向婴孩耶稣鞠躬!



孩子们，如果你正在听这个故事，你从来没有邀请耶稣进入你的生命，成为你的主和救主，你现在可以这样做，跟着我重复这个祷告：“亲爱的主耶稣，感谢你为我死在十字架上。你是神的儿子，你死了，也被埋葬，第三天又复活了。你珍贵的血洗去了我所有的罪，使我永远与阿爸天父在一起。我请求你现在进入我的生命里，成为我的主和救主，我永远是个义人，永远是有福的，永远是神的孩子。奉耶稣的名，阿门！”

Spotlight On Jesus

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Hey, rock kids, it is Christmas time. And this Christmas, our story starts with light. When do we need light? When it's bright? No, we need light when it is dark, and we can't see. When it's really dark, even the tiniest of lights can be seen. Imagine the light shining on you, just you, and no one else but you. When the light shines on you like this, you are under the spotlight. Under the spotlight, all eyes are on you.

This Christmas, our story starts with light. On the night of first Christmas, God put a special star in the sky to shine its light. This light was like a spotlight, a pointer to help everyone see What God want them to see. And because it was like a spotlight, the light did not just point to anywhere. It pointed to Bethlehem. The light did not just point to any one either. It pointed to Jesus, God's own darling Son, telling the whole world, "Look, here He is, here is My Son. My one and only darling Son!"

But before we can get to this part of the story, let's go to where our story really begins, several months earlier, in the town of Nazareth, where another bright light appeared. This time, the light was not from a star. It was from an angel. Imagine, there was Mary, having an ordinary kind of day, when suddenly, angel appears! And to make it even more extraordinary, this wasn't just any angel, this was the mighty angel, Gabriel, God's trusted messenger. Imagine, meeting an angel for the first time, and hearing the angel say, "Hello, the Lord is with you. You are special to him!" Mary must have looked puzzled, because the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. He is going to bless you in a very special way. You are going to have a baby, a beautiful baby boy. His name will be Jesus, the Rescuer God promised, His own darling Son." And even though it was too great, too marvelous, and too wonderful for Mary to fully understand, Mary believed the good news she heard. "I am the Lord's servant. Let everything happen to me, just as you have said." And just as suddenly as he came, the angel left.

After that, things got really interesting for Mary. First she became pregnant, just as the angel said. This made Joseph, the man she was going to marry, upset. "Whose baby is inside Mary. I know it's not mine." Joseph said. Then, an angel from the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Don't worry, Joseph. Don't be afraid to make Mary your wife. The baby boy inside her is from the Holy Spirit. He is God's own Son. When He is born, call Him "Jesus", which means "Saviour", because He will save His people from their sins."

Nine months later, about the time when her baby was about to be born, Mary and Joseph went on a trip...to Bethlehem. But when Mary and Joseph got there, Bethlehem was packed with travellers, and every inn was full. "Sorry," the innkeeper said. "No room. No room for you today." "but my wife's baby is going to be born, she really needs some place to stay." What do you suppose the innkeeper said? "Nope. No room. Go away."

And so, this is how Mary and Joseph found themselves at a stable, a place where animals, not people stayed. A place where the cows moo-ed, and the goats mehh-ed, and the chickens clucked, clucked, clucked in the day. There, in the middle of that dark, and probably smelly stable, in the middle of the night, God's Son was born. A tiny baby, all wrapped up in cloth, the Saviour of the world. God's most precious gift to us had arrived. Mary and Joseph put the baby Jesus in a manger filled with hay. So beautiful, and so small! Could something so tiny be the Saviour of us all? But Mary and Joseph knew this was no ordinary baby. This was the Promised One. "Emmanuel." God with us, as one of us.

That night, God put a special star in the sky to shine its light, brighter and brighter than any star anyone had ever seen. A giant spotlight, lighting up the darkness, pointing to Jesus. God was so happy, he wanted to share the good news. So there they were, just some regular shepherds watching over their sheep at night, when suddenly there was a burst of light. "Whoa!" went the shepherds. And as soon as they could see again, "Wow, an angel of the Lord!" Right in front of their very eyes, with the glory of the Lord shining around them. No wonder they were terrified. "Don't be afraid," the angel said. "I bring you good news. Good news for you and for the world. Tonight and in the town of David, your Saviour has been born. You will find him lying in a manger, a baby wrapped in cloth." Then more angels appeared! Not one, not two, but lots and lots of angels! A whole choir of shining angels singing praises to God – "Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace and goodwill toward men!"

what do you suppose the shepherds did after the angels left? That's right. They ran. They ran all the way to Bethlehem where they found Him. "Look," the shepherds gasped, "a baby in a manger. Just as the angel said." Above all, the star shone big and bright, a spotlight on Jesus in that dark and quiet night.

Far away in the east, three wise men also saw the star. "Look," they said, "look at the star! He is here. The King we've been waiting for is here!" Backing their bags and loading their camels, the wise man set off at once. Day after day, they followed the star all the way to Jerusalem, but the baby they looked for was not in Jerusalem. So off they went again, following the star until they arrived at Bethlehem, where they found Him. The one they were looking for. One by one, the wise men brought out their gifts – gold, frankincense, myrrh...All precious and costly, all treasures meant for a King. Then getting down on their knees, the wise men bowed. They all bowed to worship the King. The end.

Hey rock Kidz, if you are listening to this story and you've never asked Jesus to come into your life to be your Lord and Saviour, you can do so now. Just repeat this prayer after me, "Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me. You are the Son of God, who died, was buried and on the third day, you rose again. Your precious blood washed away all my sins making me forever right with Daddy God. I ask You now to come into my life to be my Lord and Saviour. I am forever righteous, forever blessed, forever a child of God. In Jesus' name," and everyone say, "Amen."