

Discovering A World of Wonder

Matt Heard, Senior Pastor

Part 4: Walking Into the Light Isaiah 9:2; John 8:12

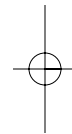
“Is this all there is...?” Sooner or later, we all wander into the river of that Question...sometimes we just wade around and other times we become totally immersed. The river has a number of tributaries containing related queries: “Is life always going to be like it is right now?” “Why did this have to happen to me?” “I’m overwhelmed—is any relief in sight?” “Things couldn’t get any better...or could they?” “Is there a God?” “If there is a God, does He care about me?” “Is there more to Christianity than going to church and keeping rules?” “Did I miss something?” “What happens when I die?” “If only...”

For Lucy Pevensie, it was a matter of backing into the Question...by feeling her way through a dark but magical wardrobe. That’s when she discovered the answer...in a land called Narnia. She first experiences a Narnia that is under the spell of a great Evil, but she also witnesses the rebirth of Narnia as a result of the powerful intervention of the great Lion, Aslan.

Aslan, Lucy, her sister and brothers, the wardrobe and Narnia are the offspring of the agile imagination of C.S. Lewis, one of the most influential literary figures of the twentieth century. Lewis was a brilliant scholar of medieval literature and an Oxford professor. Raised in an Irish-Protestant home, he discarded the religiosity of his upbringing in Belfast and became a devout atheist. Then, as a thirty-one year old Oxford don, he, in his own words, “gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed.” In doing so he surmised that he was “the most reluctant convert in all England.”

A prolific author of numerous titles ranging from *English Literature in the Sixteenth Century* to Christian classics such as *Mere Christianity*, Lewis also wrote a series of seven children’s books called, *The Chronicles of Narnia*. In 1950, he wrote the first under the title, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Walden Media and Walt Disney’s movie by the same title was released this month). More than mere entertainment, the story is for any child of any age who is thoughtful, honest and brave enough to ask the Question in the midst of his or her life’s journey: “Is this all there is?”

During this teaching series, we have been looking at the Biblical roots of both the Question...and the Answer. As we’re unpacking the Adventure that’s behind the Question, we’re discovering more Light for illuminating the path of our life’s journey. We’re also learning what authentic pursuers of Christ’s Kingdom are continually discovering in new ways: that a World of Wonder is never far away...



Walking Into the Light Christmas Eve 2005

WelcomePastor Wade Brown, Rockrimmon Community
Pastor Kent Eilers, Woodmen Heights Community

Carols of Christmas

Prayer

Worship through Giving

MessagePastor Matt Heard

Worship through Communion

Agnus Dei

Benediction



Welcome to Woodmen Valley Chapel! We are honored that you have chosen to celebrate Christmas Eve with us this year. Whether you are a long-time follower of Christ or someone who is honestly investigating what Christmas is all about, we are glad you are here.

This is an opportunity for all of us to carve out a moment of peace after what has probably been a busy season. It is an opportunity to come out of the cold and darkness and engage with a God who leads us into the Light. Our desire is that our time together will serve as a catalyst of renewed hope and wonder as we worship together.

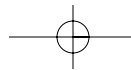
If we can help you with your spiritual journey, please let us know. If you would like more information about becoming a follower of Jesus Christ, please check the box on the tear-off part of this program. Once you fill it out, please put it in the offering basket and we will follow up with you.

Thank you again for being with us. Have a very Merry Christmas!



“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



WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT GOD?

Check out our
STARTING POINT SMALL GROUPS

Starting Point is a 10-week small group environment where you are invited to ask any questions or voice any opinion about God, the Bible or faith. Our goal is to provide a forum where you can process but will not be pressured to change your beliefs.

To learn more or to join a group, attend the **STARTING POINT ORIENTATION ON SUNDAY, JAN. 22 at 10:30 A.M.** in the **ROCKRIMMON WORSHIP CENTER, ROOM 107**. This 20-minute orientation will give you all the information you need to get started.

We expect the Starting Point groups to fill up quickly, so be sure to attend the orientation if you are interested! For more information, either complete the form below or email us at startingpoint@woodmenvalley.org.

I’d like more information about the Starting Point Class. Please contact me.

Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone (H) (W)
Email address
Requests ☞ Service Comments ☞ Notes

