

LET GOD'S LOVE ILLUMINATE THE WAY



PRAYER

Begin by taking 5 minutes in silence to increase your awareness of God's loving presence in your life. Place your burdens in God's hands. Open your heart and mind to let the Spirit move within you. Then pray together: *Come Holy Spirit and light the path out of the shadows.*

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' light shows God's love. It can be difficult to see love when it is overshadowed by so much suffering and oppression in the world. Almost half of the world's population lives on **less than \$5.50 a day**. Global poverty worsened with COVID-19. Love shows the way to create a more just world.

1. SEE OUR REALITY



- Think of a time when shadows overwhelmed your life. Who was a light for you?
- Share a time you were light for someone else who was struggling.
- **Global connection:** Meet Cecilia from Bolivia who was abused and now helps others.

2. DISCERN WITH OUR FAITH



Read or listen to the Gospel: Jn 3:14-21

Reflect:

- Scripture says "the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light," Name some ways people still shy away from the light of God's love today.
- As you look around the world, what would look or be different if God's love were breaking through everywhere?



3. GO FORTH AND DO JUSTICE



PRAY

Choose a country experiencing deep poverty. Learn more about what causes this poverty and then hold them in prayer for the week.



FAST

Fast from products you know were made in exploitative conditions in another country. Eat simple meals all week in solidarity with the poor.



GIVE

Give to a food bank or support a project that helps alleviate global poverty.

PRAYER

Bring your intentions to God for those in poverty with an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. Then pray together: *Come Holy Spirit and light the path out of the shadows.*