

SUMMARY In the Bible, there are quite a few good things that come out of dark places. We often end up "in the dark" in our lives, but God is a God who does His best work "out of the darkness." Let's look at darkness in the Bible this week and discover how God not only brought good things out of darkness in the Bible, but can and will bring good things out of the shadowy places in your life too.

This Week's Discussion Questions

- 1. What role does darkness play in Genesis 1:1-2? What does God do in the darkness?
- 2. In Exodus 10:21–29, how is the plague of darkness in Egypt a way God communicated to Israel and Egypt that He is the one true God?
- 3. In Amos 5, the "day of the LORD" is described as darkness for the people (vv. 18–20). Why? What were they both doing and not doing? How does that correspond to Jesus' teaching in Matthew 23:23?
- 4. What is the coincidence of Jesus being the light of the world and being born into a spiritually dark world from a dark womb?
- 5. In <u>Matthew 27:45</u>, the author says "darkness fell across the whole land" (NLT). How does the theme of darkness revolve around Jesus' death on the cross?

Challenge

Spend 5 to 10 minutes reflecting on the darkness you are experiencing right now or have experienced in your past. Which of these stories resonates with where you are right now? Use the prayer included in this week's study guide to shine light into the darkness you are experiencing.

Commit To Memory

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.."

John 1:5

Prayer

Light of the world, you do your best work in the darkness. Please do your best work in me as I experience the darkness of ______. Amen.

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