

A Definition

of God's Light

*Lift up the **light** of your face upon us, O LORD!*

Psalm 4.6

Definition of God's Light

Why do we do

what we do? (car ride to church)

(anger while driving – the sin behind the sin)

Definition of God's Light



Spiritual
Narcissism?
(it's in all of us)

Definition of God's Light

Can God's blessings of grace, love, life, and light be sought in a selfish manner?

In other words, why do I seek these things (or even, for that matter, God himself)?

Is it so that I can selfishly hoard and greedily consume them on myself – so I can feel better about me – so I can feel whole and complete?

Definition of God's Light

We must be careful not to fall into this trap.

Our desire to better understand the love, life and light of God must be fueled by honorable motives.

I am loved so that I can be loving...

I have life to radiate that life to others...

I have light to shine God's glory so that others may see His beauty...

Definition of God's Light

I am forgiven so that I can be forgiving...

I am blessed so that I can be a blessing...

Father, help us never to forget your purposes for grace: we are to be grace-filled people in order to extend extravagant grace to others.

Jesus did not go to the cross for Himself...

Definition of God's Light

Definitions:

God's Love: Unconditional, Sacrificial Commitment

God's Life: Intimate Knowledge of the Divine Love
Eternally Shared between Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Goal: God's Light: _____

Definition of God's Light

What is LIGHT?

Visible light (in the world)

Spiritual light (in the heart)

God's Light (in unapproachable glory)

Definition of God's Light

Visible light (in the world)



helps us understand

Spiritual light (in the heart)



helps us understand

God's Light (in unapproachable glory)

Definition of God's Light

Visible
light



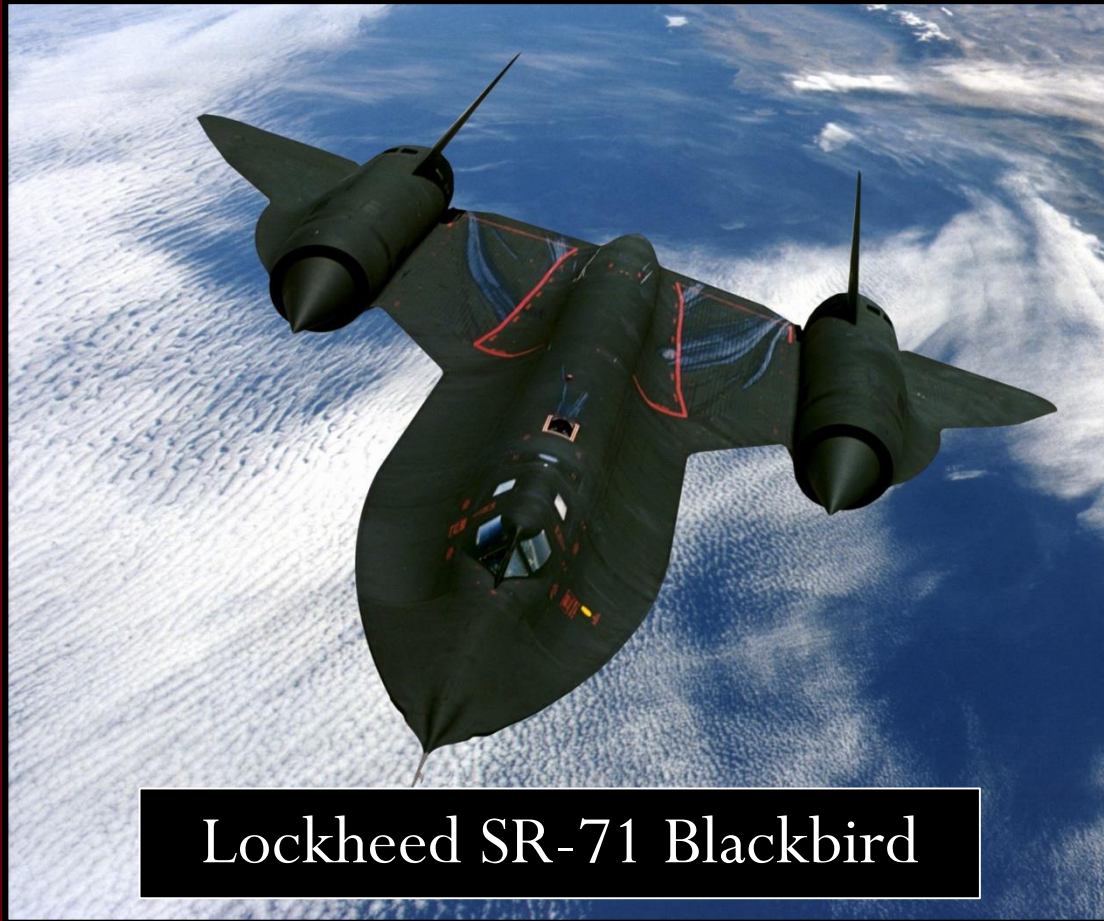
Definition of God's Light



Speed of
Sound:

767 mi/hr
(Mach 1)

Definition of God's Light



Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird

Fastest
Piloted
Aircraft:

2,193 mi/hr
(Mach 3)

Definition of God's Light



Space
Shuttle:

17,500 mi/hr
(Mach 25)

Definition of God's Light



Speed of Light:

671,000,000 mi/hr
(Mach 874,000)

Definition of God's Light

How can we possibly catch
something going that fast?



*Not a problem for our
omnipotent Creator*

Definition of God's Light

...and amazingly, it just happens - without much effort



*and most of us are
blessed with two!*

Definition of God's Light

Windows to the soul?



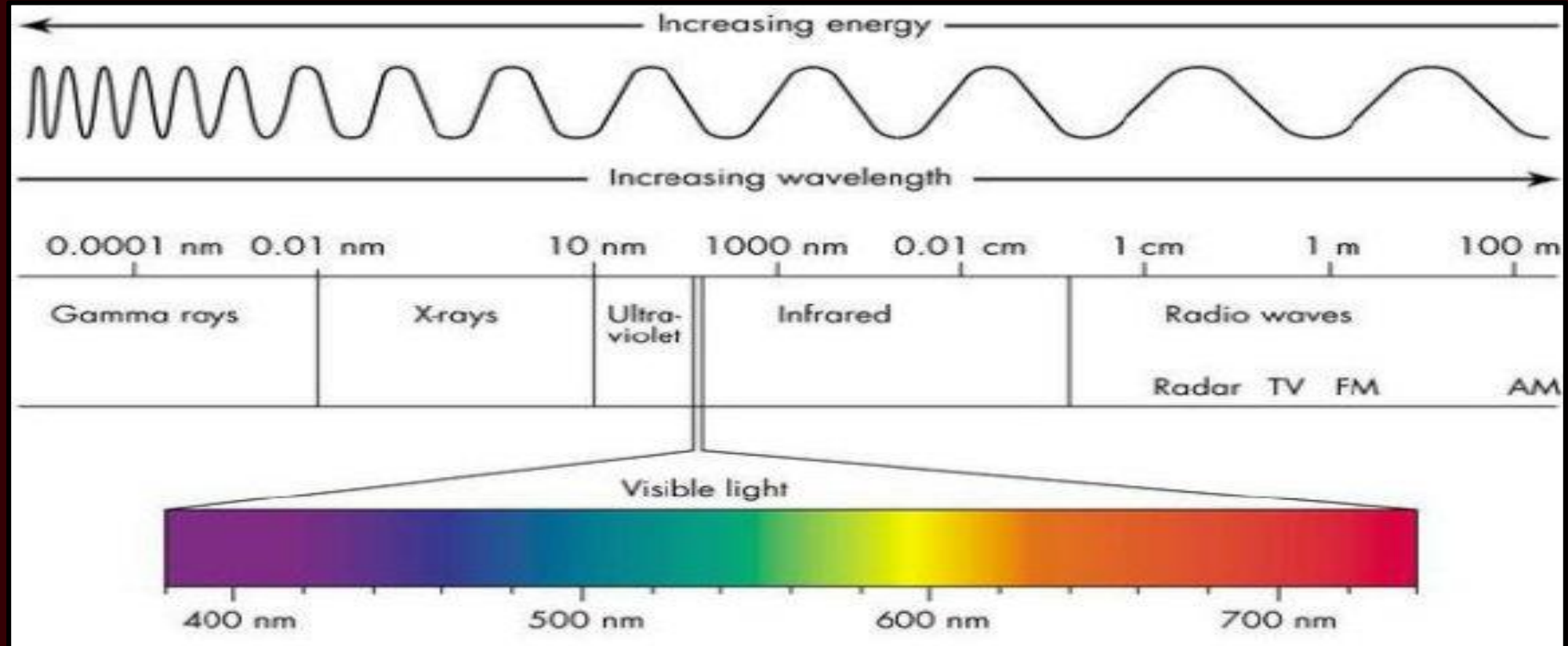
*Importance of
eye-contact.*

Definition of God's Light

What is visible light?

Electromagnetic radiation that is perceivable by the normal human eye as colors between red and violet, having frequencies between 400 terahertz and 790 terahertz and wavelengths between 750 nanometers and 380 nanometers.

Definition of God's Light



Electromagnetic Spectrum

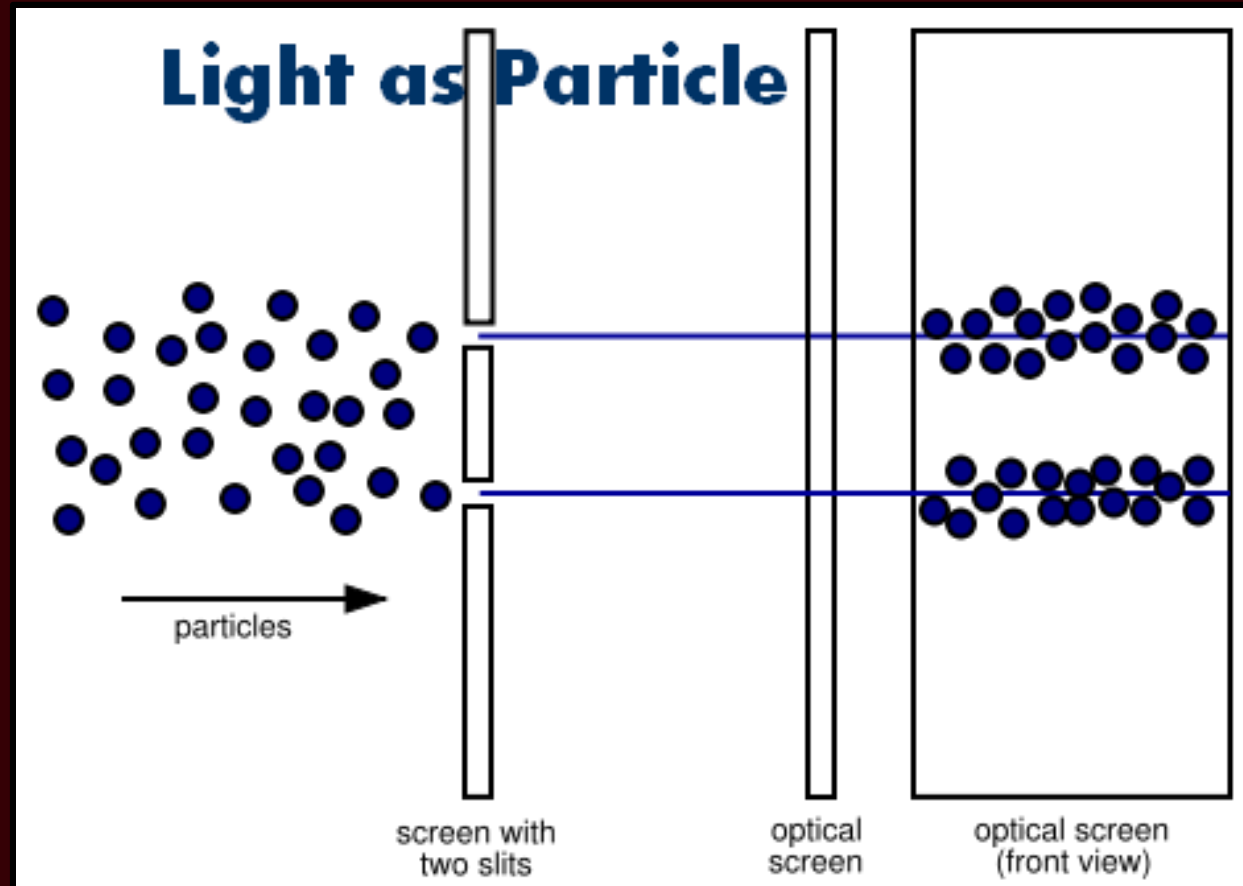
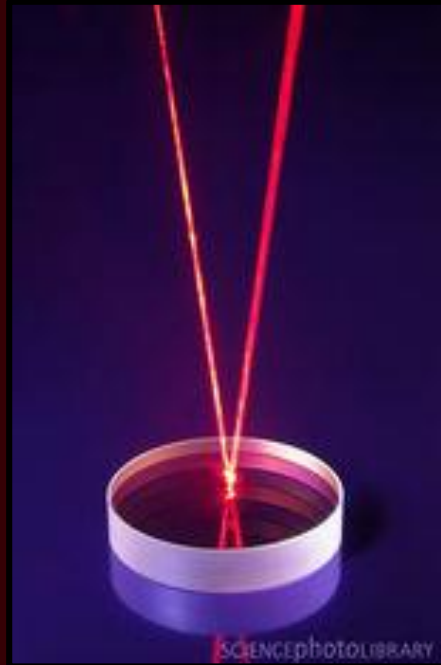
Definition of God's Light

Particle or Wave?

Yes!

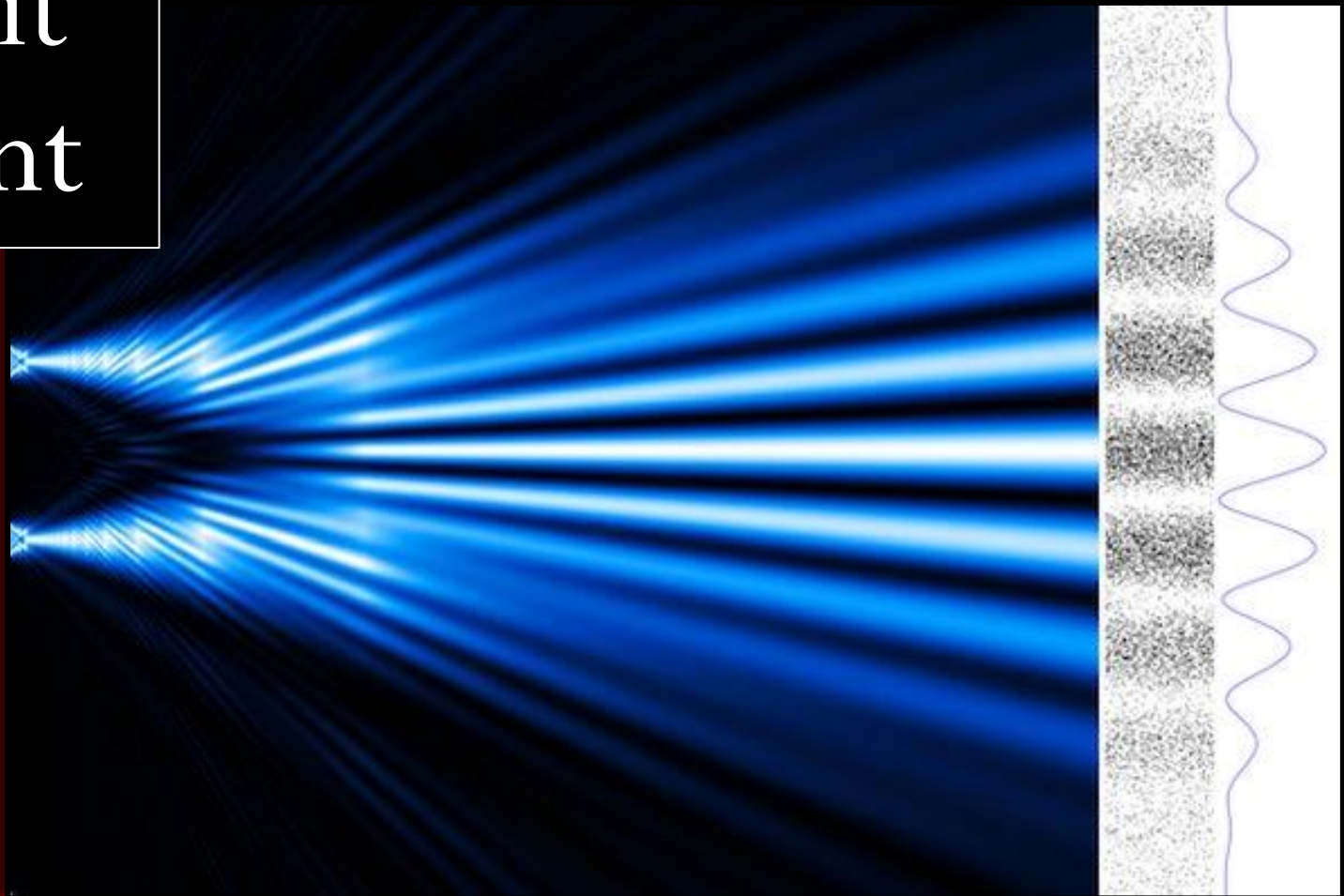
Definition of God's Light

Light as Particle



Definition of God's Light

Double Slit Experiment



Definition of God's Light

Motion of
two Waves

Crests and
Troughs



Definition of God's Light

Visible
light



Powerful, Fast, Mysterious and Revealing!

Definition of God's Light

God's Purpose for Light:

to reveal the beauty of creation as a means
to display His Glory to the world.

If we are not careful, however, the gift may
become more meaningful than the Giver.

Definition of God's Light

God's Purpose for Light:

to reveal the beauty of creation as a means
to display His Glory to the world.

What are some of the most beautiful things
you have ever feasted your eyes on?

Definition of God's Light

The Pacific Ocean at sunset

A gentle rain in the mountains

Your bride walking down the isle

The birth of your child

Your child's face Christmas morning

Your child's wedding

Definition of God's Light

C.S. Lewis (Letters to Malcolm)

This heavenly fruit is instantly redolent of the orchard where it grew. This sweet air whispers of the country from whence it blows. It is a message.

We know we are being touched by a finger of that righthand at which there are pleasures for evermore.

Definition of God's Light

C.S. Lewis (Letters to Malcolm)

There need be no question of thanks or praise as a separate event, something done afterwards.

To experience the tiny theophany is itself to adore.

[Theophany: a visible manifestation of God to humankind]

Definition of God's Light

C.S. Lewis (Letters to Malcolm)

Gratitude exclaims, very properly, 'How good of God to give me this.'

Adoration says, 'What must be the quality of that Being whose far-off and momentary coruscations are like this!'

[coruscation: *to sparkle like a diamond*]

Definition of God's Light

C.S. Lewis (Letters to Malcolm)

One's mind runs back up the **sunbeam** to the sun.

Definition of God's Light

God invites us to ride
the sunbeam to the sun.

*God's purpose for **light!***

Definition of God's Light

Visible
light



Definition of God's Light

Spiritual
light



Definition of God's Light

Psalm 119.130

The unfolding of your words gives **light**;
it imparts understanding to the simple.

*How does an understanding of the nature of
visible light help us “unfold” God's Word?*

Definition of God's Light

Color – seeing beauty and variety in the Word.

Wavelength – appreciating the length that God has gone to awaken our hearts to the glory of His Word.

Frequency – recognizing how often God brings His Word to “bear” in life’s circumstances.

Definition of God's Light

For what purpose did God
shine His Light in our hearts?

Definition of God's Light

2 Corinthians 4.6-7

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Definition of God's Light

Are you experiencing an ever
increasing **contrast** between
God's glory
and your jar of clay?

Definition of God's Light

God's
Light



Definition of God's Light

1 Timothy 6.15-16

...our Lord Jesus Christ...He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see.

To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

Definition of God's Light

Exodus 33.18-23

Moses said, "Please **show me your glory.**" And God said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, **for man shall not see me and live.**"

Definition of God's Light

Exodus 33.18-23

And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, and while **my glory** passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will take away my hand, and **you shall see my back,** but **my face shall not be seen.**"

Definition of God's Light

2 Corinthians 4.6

For God, who said,
“Let light shine out of darkness,”
has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge
of the **glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Definition of God's Light

Romans 1.19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his **invisible attributes**, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, **in the things that have been made**. So they are without excuse.

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

(not shared) — people primarily see these in Scripture

VS.

Communicable Attributes

(shared) — people primarily see these in us

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Omnipotent

God has all power over all things
at all times and in all ways.

*Job 42.2... "I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."*

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Omnipresent

God is present everywhere at all times.

Psalm 139.7-10 . . . *Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.*

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Omniscient

God is all-knowing.

1 John 3.20...for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

Definition of God's Light

Rescue

Lauren Daigle

You are not hidden; there's never been a moment you were forgotten

You are not hopeless; though you have been broken, your innocence stolen

I hear you whisper underneath your breath

I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you in the middle of the darkest night

It's true, I will rescue you.

Definition of God's Light

Rescue

Lauren Daigle

There is no distance that cannot be covered over and over
You're not defenseless; I'll be your shelter - I'll be your armor
I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS
I will send out an army to find you in the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you.

Omnipresent
Omnipotent
Omniscient

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Sovereign

God has the power, wisdom and authority
to do anything He chooses.

*Psalm 103.19... The LORD has established his throne in
the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Self-existent

God is the uncreated Creator.

Isaiah 46.9... *for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me.*

Definition of God's Light

Incommunicable Attributes

Immutable

God does not and cannot change.

Malachi 3.6... *For I the LORD do not change;
therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.*

Definition of God's Light

Romans 1.19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his **invisible attributes**, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, **in the things that have been made**. So they are without excuse.

Definition of God's Light

Seeing the invisible God through the visible creation:

1. Nature

Ps 19.1 ... The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Definition of God's Light

Seeing the invisible God through the visible creation:

But what was the climax of
God's creation?

Genesis 1.27...So God created man
in his own image, in the image of God he
created him; male and female he created them.

Definition of God's Light

Seeing the invisible God through the visible creation:

1. Nature

Ps 19.1 ... The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2. People

2 Cor 2.14-15 ... and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

Definition of God's Light

Our "light" has the aroma of:

~ freshly cut flowers

~ freshly cut balsam Christmas tree

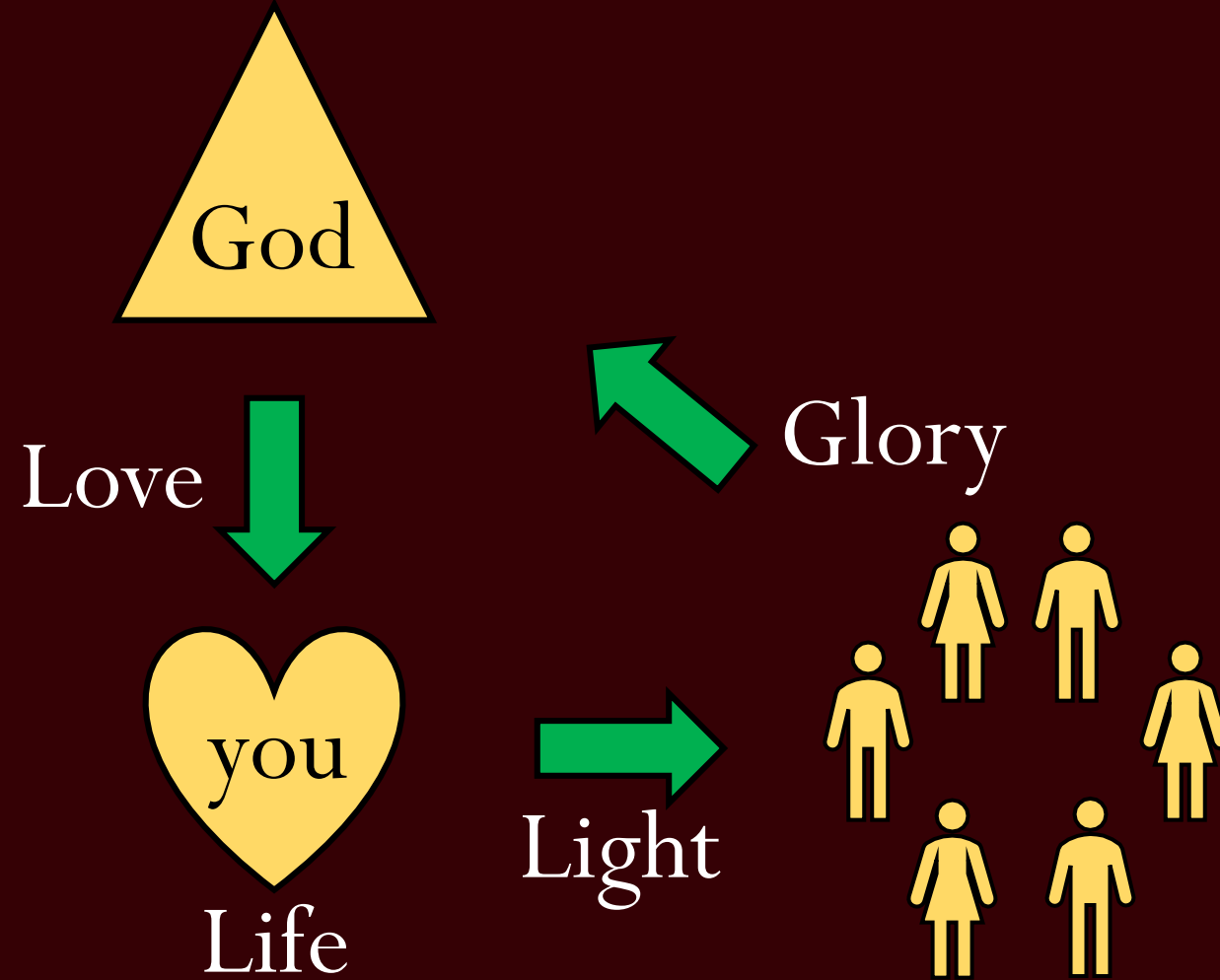
~ freshly baked chocolate chip cookies

Definition of God's Light

Matthew 5.16

In the same way, **let your light shine** before others, so that they may see your good works and give **glory** to your Father who is in heaven.

Definition of God's Light



Definition of God's Light

Communicable Attributes

Love

Goodness

Extravagance

Definition of God's Light

Communicable Attributes

Truth

Wisdom

Empathy

Definition of God's Light

Communicable Attributes

Holiness

Compassion

Kindness

Definition of God's Light

Definition of God's Light:

Definition of God's Light

Definition of God's Light:

Visible display of God's glorious Perfections

Visible display = Glory
Perfections (Attributes)

Definition of God's Light

Definition of God's Light:

Visible display of God's glorious Perfections

What effect would this definition have
on meaning and purpose in life?

Definition of God's Light

Definition of God's Light:

Visible display of God's glorious Perfections

Matthew 5.16...*Father, please let Your light so shine through me so that others may see your beauty and give You the glory you so richly deserve.*

Definition of God's Light

Definitions:

God's Love: Unconditional, Sacrificial Commitment

God's Life: Intimate Knowledge of the Divine Love
Eternally Shared between Father, Son and Holy Spirit

God's Light: Visible display of God's glorious
Perfections

A Definition

of God's Light

*Lift up the **light** of your face upon us, O LORD!*

Psalm 4.6