

# Year 4: Why do Christians call Jesus the Light of the World?

The Advent ring originated in Germany. There are four red or purple candles and a central candle, which is usually white.



## What do the Advent Candles stand for?

Advent rings usually contain five candles, which remind Christians about the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ.

1. The candle of **Hope**. Prayers on a special day focus on hope.
2. The candle is a symbol of God's **Peace**, reminding Christians of the Prophets who said that the **Messiah** would be born.
3. The candle of **Love**, which represents John the Baptist who baptised Jesus.
4. The candle of **Joy**, which reminds Christians of Jesus' mother, Mary.
5. The fifth (white) candle reminds Christians of the birth of Jesus.

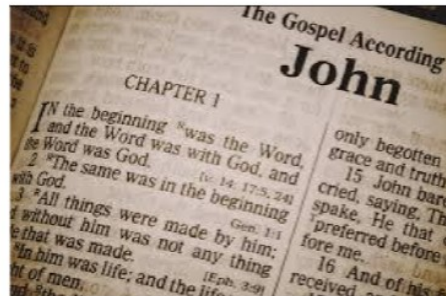
## Who is the Light of the World?

### John Chapter 1

John, Chapter 1, is read at carol services each year. It is regarded by Christians as a very important passage because it expresses beliefs about Jesus and his significance.

John refers to Jesus as 'The Word' and 'Light'. Through these images John is stating that Jesus is the Son of God and that Jesus is the **saviour**, a light of goodness, life and salvation that will defeat the darkness and evil.

John also records Jesus as stating that he was the Light of the World in John 8 verse 12. "When Jesus spoke again to the people he said, **I am the Light of the World**. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."



## Vocabulary

<b>Advent</b>	The start of the Christian year.
<b>Advent ring</b>	Four candles that symbolise the four weeks of Advent, and a fifth for Jesus' birth.
<b>Light of the World</b>	Jesus Christ.
<b>nativity</b>	A story that tells of the birth of Jesus.
<b>prophets</b>	Special messengers.
<b>saviour</b>	A person who saves someone or something from danger.



### The Holman Hunt picture

The picture is dark apart from the halo around Jesus and the lantern he holds.

This shows that it is Jesus who lights the dark world and that Jesus is the light.

Take time to reflect

Who is your saviour?  
How do they keep you safe?

CRC Article 14:  
All children have the right to their own religion.

