John 1:1-6

The Christmas season is a wonderful time to reflect and appreciate God's wonderful gift to us of Jesus. I have always been intrigued and fascinated by John's description of Jesus as "the Word" in John 1. Jesus was one of the most powerful ways God has chosen to reveal Himself to us and to use Jesus as a living word to show us His heart for us and his Character. As the Word, Jesus showed us a God who loves, who heals, who creates, and who blesses us. Jesus' actions in life and in death speak to God's deep love and willingness to not only love us in our imperfections, but to endure great pain and suffering to create an opportunity for us to choose to have a close personal relationship with Him. According to this passage, Jesus was there in the beginning with God and is responsible for all creation, including each one of us. We owe our existence to Him. It has always amazed me that while possessing that kind of power, he chose to pursue us fully by becoming a man and walking among us. For me, this inspires profound gratitude.

I encourage you to take time this Christmas season and reflect on what Jesus' life says to us about who God is and how He truly feels about us. Jesus demonstrated patient love in the gospels over and over again. Perhaps that is one way Jesus lights up the darkness, through answering questions that we all wrestle with about who God is and how he feels about each of us.

What do I think God thinks about me and feels for me? How does that line up with God's character demonstrated by Jesus and how he lived his life?

God, thank you for the incredible gift of Jesus to shine light for us on who you truly are and how You love us. Let the essences of who we are and how we live our lives be evidence of our receiving of your love for us and it pouring out on the people around us.

Ben Merrill