

Welcome to the second week of
25 Weeks of Advent.

In the beginning, Jesus was there.
When the universe roared into
existence, Jesus was there.
And when God had us in mind,
Jesus was there, too.
"Let us make human beings..."

God spoke and the world leapt into
being; but God *breathed* and we
came alive, because He carefully
crafted us in love.

God spoke and his word created the
heavens and the earth, and
everything in it. In Jesus, the word
became flesh and sought to create
with us! A new beginning, a new
relationship, a restored dwelling
together.



Readings for your Week

Light overcomes
John 1:1-18

We have an intimate creator
Psalm 139

Called to be in the light
1 John 1:1—2:14

Dwelling with the light
Psalm 27

Week 2: Created by Love

Read: Genesis 1

God seems to be making a point about darkness and light! But have you noticed how He emphasises it? Genesis 1:5b says, **and there was evening, and there was morning – the first day** (6 times). WE normally say that a day is 'daytime followed by night time', not night followed by day... God knew that darkness needed light!

In the darkness, WE need light! So He enshrined this truth into the pattern of His people. The Jewish Sabbath starts on Friday evening and ends on Saturday afternoon. It starts with 12 hours of darkness followed by 12 hours of light. God is interested in us going from darkness to light! In creation God is clearly interested in light dispelling darkness. In John 1:1-9 (read it!) Jesus is declared to be this light, still today. John says Jesus is **the true light that gives light to every man.**

*What is a time in your life where you have been reminded of God as the light?
When have you experienced his light shining brightly in the darkness
—and overcoming it?*

John 1:1-3 also tells us that when, at the beginning, **God said**, and **it was**, that **JESUS was the Word that spoke!** It was Jesus who brought us into being!! So why wouldn't this Jesus still chase after us now! His love didn't stop – **God so loved the world...**(John 3:16).

That's why He came for us – **the Word became flesh** (John 1:14)! Creation and Christmas go hand in hand! Those He created (you, your neighbour, the Chinese, the Africans, the Muslims, the Buddhists – all human beings...) He is intimately involved with, and still chases to have a relationship with!

Who do you know needs to know that they have a loving creator—a loving saviour—who knows them better than they know themselves? How can you be a messenger of the light that overcomes all darkness?

