



# Fall

## FAMILY EVENTS

GLOW!

SUGGESTED AGE RANGE:  
8-12 YEARS OLD



eastbrook  
**KIDS**

# GLOW!

**SUGGESTED AGE RANGE: 8-12 YEARS OLD**

Autumn days darken early after the long summer days. Invite another family to share a Glow-in-the-Dark party with you! Gather around a fire outside or simply turn off the lights in your home

**BIBLE THEME:** *Jesus is the Light of the World*  
**SCRIPTURE:** John 1:1-5, John 8:12, Matthew 5:14-16

Find a comfortable spot in a dark room at night for everyone to read and discuss the Bible passages. You will need a flashlight, Bibles, and small votives or battery-operated votives for the discussion. When everyone is seated, turn off the light and begin the discussion in the dark.

Say:

*It is autumn, the season when the daylight hours are getting a little shorter every day. Today we are going to do our Bible study in the dark. Who can turn to John 1:1-5 and read it?*

Let kids respond. Some may try to do it, but it should be dark enough in the room that it is difficult or impossible to read. Kids may try to come up with ways to shine light to see the pages but let them know that you can talk about that later.

We are having difficulty doing this because our eyes are adapted to see light. We know that there are some animals, especially nocturnal ones (or animals that are awake during the night) that have eyes or senses that are adapted to moving around and functioning in the dark. But for us, we need light to see.

Say:

*Think of Bible verses that have to do with light. Which do you think is the very first Bible verse that mentions light?*

Listen to kids' answers; they should remember or be reminded of Genesis 1:1-5. At the beginning of creation there was darkness. God created light and called it good! I am going to use my flashlight to read John 1:1-5. Listen for what it says about light. Read John 1:1-5. What did you hear about light?

Say:

*John is writing in a very poetic way about God. God is not alone in these verses. John describes the other being as the Word, life, and the light of men. When this being came to earth born as a human, he received a name. What is it? Jesus!*

If the kids have trouble getting to that from the description, remind them that he is the person that John writes about in his gospel.

Say:

*Jesus describes himself as the light as well. Can someone use my light and read John 8:12?*

Have child read John 8:12 aloud.

Say:

*In both passages in John, light and darkness are shown as opposites. If Jesus is the light, what do you think is the darkness?*

Possible answers could be sin, living separately from God, worldliness, etc.)

*When we have light, we can see clearly. We know where things are that we might trip over in the dark. We can avoid those Legos or toys scattered on the floor that might cause us to trip or hurt ourselves. In fact, our eyes were made for the light! When God created the world, (people included), we were made to live with Him. Sin separated us from that life. Jesus is the light that makes us able to see what is good and godly. Jesus gives us freedom from that darkness in temptation and sin.*

*We are going to read one more passage and I want to give each of you a light that will help you to be able to read your Bible yourself.*

Hand out the votives and light them or have the kids turn them on.

*Use your light to read Matthew 5:14-16. Who else is light? Us, as followers of Jesus! Yes, Jesus calls us light! As we know Jesus better, we can better 'see' His truth.*

*Look around at all of our lights together. All of our lights shine and push away the darkness. As we follow Jesus, we shine His light into a dark world.*

*When we follow Jesus and live the way that God calls us to live, we also become His light to others. We don't do this for ourselves, though, so that we seem awesome or amazing. In verse 16, what do our good works do? They give glory to God the Father in heaven. We praise God and show Him to others by being His light in the world.*

**Bible Memory:** "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" John 8:12

**Worship Song:** "My Lighthouse" by Rend Collective <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFBZJGSgyVQ>

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## **PRAYER PROMPT:** Jesus, Light for the Nations

### **Supplies Needed:**

- 4"x6" pieces of paper
- Markers
- Battery-operated tealights
- Bible, open to Luke 2
- tape

In Luke 2:29-32, Simeon sees baby Jesus and calls Him "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

Take a piece of paper and think about difficult times when you or someone else has needed hope. Draw or write about those times. Then, tape opposite ends of the paper together to form a tube. Light the votive and place it inside the tube. Thank Jesus that He is our light, that He shines in the darkness and brings hope and peace and salvation to a dark world.

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## **CRAFT:** Galaxy Painting

### **Supplies Needed:**

- Picture frame with glass (dollar store or Goodwill are great resources if you don't already have one!)
- Paintbrushes
- Elmer's Glow-in-the-Dark Liquid Glue
- Blue and/or purple acrylic paint

Take the back off of the frame and take out the glass.

Squeeze glue onto the glass and spread and swirl it around with the paintbrush. The more glue you use, the more it will glow! Let the glue dry completely.

Lightly coat the dried glue with blue or purple paint, or a combination of the two. Let the paint dry.

Put the glass back in the frame. Replace the backing. Enjoy!

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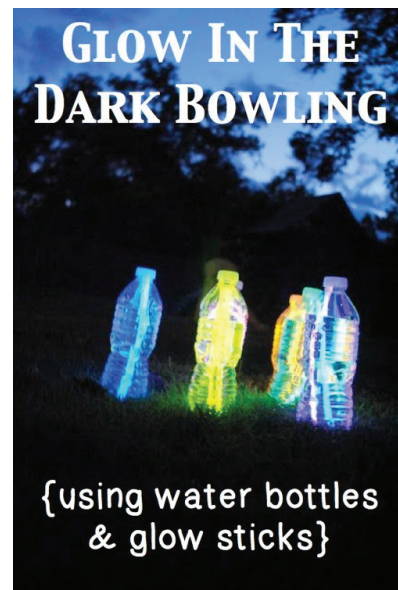
## **GAME:** *Glowing Bowling/Ring Toss*

**Bowling Prep:** Gather 6 empty plastic water bottles. Crack a glow stick so that it glows and put in the water bottle. Fill the water bottle and close it.

Set up the bottles like bowling pins. Mark the starting line. Using a ball (soccer or playground ball would work well), roll the ball to see how many pins you can knock down!

**Ring Toss Prep:** Make three glow-in-the-dark necklaces. Using the water bottles with the glowsticks inside, line up the bottles. Make a line a few feet away from the bottles (like Bozo buckets.)

Give each person the three glow necklaces. Have them toss the necklaces, one at a time, and try to ring the bottles. For an extra challenge, assign a point value to each bottle. When the ring goes around a bottle, kids earn that many points. Have the kids add up their total points from three tosses.



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## **COOKING WITH KIDS:** *Glow in the Dark Cupcakes*

### **Ingredients:**

- 1 box chocolate cake mix
- Additional ingredients needed on box (usually water, eggs or oil)
- 1 container white buttercream frosting
- 1 package Jell-O (pineapple casts the brightest glow)
- 1 c. water
- 1 c. chilled tonic water

Follow the instructions on a box cake mix.

*What kids can do:* Measure out and mix ingredients. Line a cupcake tin with paper liners.

Fill the cupcake tins. Bake according to directions on package. Let cupcakes cool.

*What kids can do:* Frost cupcakes with vanilla buttercream. Freeze cupcakes, 30 minutes or up to overnight, so frosting can stiffen.

Adults: make the glowing glaze. Bring 1 c. water to a boil, then whisk in Jell-o mix until dissolved and remove from the heat. Whisk in chilled tonic water and let cool to about room temperature without setting. (Wiggle the pot every few minutes to make sure it's not thickening; this process will take about 10-15 minutes.)

*What kids can do:* Dip the frosting of each cupcake into the glaze. Once all are dipped, put them back in the freezer for a few minutes to harden.

Look at the cupcakes with a black light and enjoy!



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