

# A Light Unto My Path



**Donna Rees**

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Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptural references contained in this E-Book are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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## Introduction

**D**id you know that the word *light* is used in the Old Testament 168 times and is used in the New Testament 76 times? As you and your children learn about light, why don't you explore the Bible, to find out what the Bible says about it? You will be amazed!

## Meditate on His Word

**E**ven a brief word study of a single verse will bring rich rewards. Let me share an example. Recently, the Lord drew my attention to the words of Psalm 36:9: "*For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.*" What does that verse mean? It sounded intriguing, but until I did a little more investigating and began meditating on the truth of that statement, that verse did not make a big impact in my life. Yet, God intends for His Word to have life-changing impact!

*"Yet, God intends for His Word to have life-changing impact!"*

## Gain Understanding

**T**o gain understanding, I pulled out my big ol' Strong's Concordance and looked up the word *light*. I discovered that in this verse, in both instances, *light* is a translation of the Hebrew word *'ôwr*, which means "*illumination* or (concrete) *luminary* (in every sense, including lightning, happiness, etc.)," and that Hebrew word is also translated as *bright, clear, daylight, lightning, morning, and sun*.

## Enlightenment

Simply by reading that definition, I was thrilled and my awe of God increased—my understanding of “light” was expanded to include “lightning” and “happiness”! Think about it. The very fountain (i.e. source) of life is found in our mighty God, and in *His* light (wisdom, understanding, insight, etc.) shall we see light—from His lightning (the knock-your-socks-off type of revelation power) to the small, steady flicker of a candle (the not-so-grand type of revelation

*"God shining His revelation on a verse of Scripture or inviting me to see a situation from His eternal, omnipotent perspective"*

that still scatters the darkness one step at a time) to the sunrise (God shining His revelation on a verse of Scripture or inviting me to see a situation from His eternal, omnipotent perspective) to the glow of the stars (that gentle, steady revelation He gives as we choose to obey and follow Him, even when there is no lightning revelation). Praise the Lord!

Pull out your Bible and a concordance, and see what *you* can discover about light from the Word of God. Our heavenly Father is eager to reveal Himself and His ways to His children. Let His light shine in your heart!

### A Few Verses to Whet Your Appetite

- “. . . Thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.” (Hosea 6:5)
- “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?” (Psalm 27:1)
- “O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.” (Psalm 43:3)
- “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Psalm 112:4)

- *"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." (Proverbs 4:18)*
- *"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life." (Proverbs 6:23)*
- *"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." (Matthew 5:14)*
- *"The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." (John 1:7-9)*
- *"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6)*
- *"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6)*
- *"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. . . .If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:5, 7)*
- *"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

## Further Resources

- ✓ [God's Light, Shining Bright - Kregel Publications](#)
- ✓ [Starlight and Time DVD](#)
- ✓ [A Bible Study – Old Testament Basics - Student](#)
- ✓ [A Bible Study– Beginner New Testament Overview Student Book](#)
- ✓ [A Bible Study– Beginner Old Testament Overview Student Book](#)
- ✓ [My Church Notebook- Elementary](#)
- ✓ [My Church Notebook- Older/Adult](#)
- ✓ [Praying the Attributes of God - Kregel Publications](#)
- ✓ [Reading Planner Software](#)



Donna and Timus Rees homeschooled both of their children (1983-1999) through high school graduation, depending daily on God's grace for wisdom, discernment, and strength. Homeschooling was a joyful, rewarding experience for their entire family, and they love to encourage families who are currently enjoying that adventure! The Reeses have been involved in the field of publishing for more than thirty years, and Donna's expertise lies in the area of editing. She is currently the General Editor of *The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine*.

## **Appendix: Copywork and Other Resources**



Psalms 39:9

For with thee is the fountain of life:  
in thy light shall we see light.

Matthew 5:14

Ye are the light of the world. A city  
that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Hosea 6:5

... Thy judgments are as the light  
that goeth forth.

Psalms 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
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O send out thy light and thy truth:  
let them lead me; let them bring me  
unto thy holy hill, and to thy  
tabernacles.

Proverbs 6:23

For the commandment is a lamp; and  
the law is light; and reproofs of  
instruction are the way of life.

1 John 1:5

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.



1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

John 1:7-9

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who commanded the light  
to shine out of darkness, hath shined  
in our hearts, to give the light of the  
knowledge of the glory of God in the  
face of Jesus Christ.

John 8-12

Then spake Jesus again unto them,  
saying, I am the light of the world: he  
that followeth me shall not walk in  
darkness, but shall have the light of  
life.

# How to Begin Homeschooling

1. **Discuss With Your Spouse:** Educating your child at home is a huge decision and should be one that is made with your spouse. Do not begin unless you are in agreement about this decision. You will need the support of your spouse not only at the beginning, but also throughout the year.
2. **Research the Homeschool Laws Applicable in your Area:** Be fully aware of the legal requirements before you begin and especially before you take a child out of public school. For the U.S., each state's legal requirements can be found on the [www.HomeschoolLegal.com](http://www.HomeschoolLegal.com) website. Internationally, refer to [www.HSLDA.org](http://www.HSLDA.org).
3. **Research Styles of Home Education:** There is no single right way to educate your child at home; however, there are many differing philosophies you may want to consider.
  - **Charlotte Mason:** Based on a method introduced by nineteenth-century educator Charlotte Mason, this approach includes nature studies/journaling, narration, and living books.
  - **Classical:** Based on Dorothy Sayers' *The Lost Tools of Learning*, in which child development is broken up into three "stages" of learning commonly called "the Trivium."
  - **Delight Directed:** This puts the learning in the hands of the child, based on his or her interests. Parents help facilitate this type of learning with appropriate instructional materials.
  - **Eclectic:** A mix of philosophies and curricula to accommodate each child's abilities and interests. Parents choose from any method or style only those components that fit their specific needs.
  - **The Principle Approach:** An approach based on the principles of our Founding Fathers and an emphasis on God's Word as the basis for every subject.
  - **Traditional Textbook:** Normally uses a full-range, packaged, textbook-type curriculum that also may include a scope and sequence, testing, and recordkeeping.
  - **Unit Studies:** All or most core subjects are covered while studying any one topic or unit of study, using a variety of resources and supplemental activities.
  - **Unschooling:** A relaxed setting where learning is directed by the child. Parts of this philosophy are based on research by John Taylor Gatto and John Holt.



- 4. Find Support:** After finding your style of choice (or a mix of more than one choice), you may want to choose a support group that reflects that specific style or just a general homeschool support group in your area. Meeting with other home educators offers encouragement as well as knowledge and assistance with your homeschool questions. Often, organized classes or activities for your children are offered through support groups as well. For information about homeschool support groups in your area, check these listings:

U.S.:

[www.TheHomeschoolMagazine.com/Homeschool\\_Nations/State\\_Listings.php](http://www.TheHomeschoolMagazine.com/Homeschool_Nations/State_Listings.php)  
[www.HomeschoolLegal.com](http://www.HomeschoolLegal.com)

UK:

<http://www.home-service.org/>  
<http://www.heas.org.uk/>

New Zealand:

<http://www.che.org.nz/>  
<http://hef.org.nz/>  
<http://www.ahe.org.nz/>  
<http://www.homeschoolers.wellington.net.nz/>  
<http://community.library.org.nz/cgi-bin/display.pl?id=296>

Guam:

[www.HomeschoolBlogger.com/guam](http://www.HomeschoolBlogger.com/guam)  
<http://www.tumon.com/ghsa>

Australia:

<http://www.hea.asn.au/hea/>

Canada:

[www.shbe.info](http://www.shbe.info)  
[www.machs.mb.ca](http://www.machs.mb.ca)  
[www.aheaonline.com](http://www.aheaonline.com)  
<http://nshea.webcentre.ca/>  
<http://www.eho.org/support/canada.asp>

- 5. Gather Resources:** Some families start with a complete curriculum package, while others start with a notebook and a library card. Choosing your resources depends on your style or method of education and your own interests. If you are financially burdened, there are free homeschooling resources on the web, as well as discounted, used books in abundance.

**You Can Do This!** Parents around the world are taking back their God-given responsibility to educate their children, and you can too. We have developed two downloads to help you get started:

- ✓ [Homeschool With Confidence](#)
- ✓ [Simple Recipes for Successful Homeschooling](#)

*Disclaimer: The above information is not intended as legal advice and should not be construed as such. Please check the legal requirements in your area.*

## **To a Homeschool Mom** **By Amelia Harper**

He gave this gift with gentle hands,  
A treasure rich and rare;  
But sand and rock and rugged stone  
Obscured the gem so fair.

“I give this gift to you,” He said,  
“To polish and to prime;  
The future lies within your hands,  
So make use of the time.”

Some others placed their precious gifts  
Within another’s care,  
Because they knew the craft took time—  
And time they could not spare.

But you were not content to trust  
This task to other hands.  
You sought to teach yourself the craft  
That such a task demands.

For, you said, “No other hand  
Can craft this gem so fair;  
My loving eyes can better see  
The treasure hidden there.”

So carefully you chipped away  
Till brilliance sprang from stone.  
You shaped each facet, smoothed each face,  
Until the task was done.

Some days you feared that you would fail;  
Some days, you saw success.  
But still you labored on with love  
And gentle tenderness.

Thus, soon the gem He gave to you  
Reflected Light sublime;  
And then you knew no other task  
Was better worth your time.

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