**Sunday, July 19th, 2020**

**Genesis 1:1-4**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep,

and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light." And there was light.

God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

The Word of The Lord.          **Thanks be to God**

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Brian was seven years old.

One of his greatest pleasures in life was teasing his six-year-old sister, Natalie.

One day he found a small mirror and immediately

set about discovering ways to annoy her.

He stood outside her bedroom and used the mirror

to shine the light on the wall in her room.

He would make it twirl in large circles, and dance along her wall.

Then he would cover the mirror with his hand so the spots disappeared.

Natalie tried to figure out where the light was coming from.

She looked out the window. She looked at her lamp. She looked up at her ceiling light.

But the spots would appear for a while, and then disappear.

One day she complained to Brian that there were strange lights dancing in her room.

Like a gallant big brother, he helped her inspect the room.

Then he innocently said he had no idea what could cause dancing lights in her room.

That evening, as Natalie read a book while propped up by pillows on her bed,

Brian produced a fantastic light show.

The light spots danced on her wall.

Then the lights spots move closer and closer to her.

That is how he got caught.

Natalie jumped off her bed, dropping her book on the floor,

dashed out of the room, and ran smack into Brian.

The mirror dropped from his hand and he was discovered.

At first Natalie was annoyed.

But then she discovered a similar mirror in her room and joined him in his antics.

Now two sets of light spots danced along walls in every room of the house.

Before long they worked together to shine light into dark corners.

They went through the house looking for dark spaces

where they could shine their lights, in closets, under furniture, behind doors.

They took their mirrors outside and enjoyed surprising

animals with their dancing light show.

The cat enjoyed chasing the light although she never caught it.

Their dog couldn't figure it out, so he stayed out of the path of light when he could.

For a long time, Brian and Natalie enjoyed reflecting the light with their mirrors,

and getting people's attention with their amazing dancing lights shows.

We can be God's mirrors.

Our job description can be to reflect God's light and love.

Our lives, and how we treat others,

reflect God's love, peace, and joy, into their lives.

Life on this earth is often filled with dark corners, confusing difficulties, tough times.

When we reflect God peace and joy into the lives of others,

they discover God really is present with them.

And they realize God really does care about them.

We can't create God's light, but we can be God's mirrors, reflecting his light.

There are a lot of cold dark days in our lives, and throughout the world.

But as God's mirrors we can shine light into people's lives,

so they do not have to live in the darkness.

Throughout all time there have been many people who were willing to shine a little light

into the dark tunnels of our days, and help those around them.

As God's mirrors, Churches and Christians

continue to carry the light and shine it in dark places.

When we take the time to notice, we can make a big difference.

In a dark and scary world, shining God's light is more important than ever.

Every little bit of light can be important to another person

Each day provides us with fresh opportunities to reflect god light in the darkness.

With God, every day matters, every person counts.

And that includes each one of us.

AMEN