

# “The Pumpkin Parable”

## **We all have yucky stuff on the inside.**

*For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.*

Romans 3:23 (NLT)

## **Jesus cleans out the yucky stuff.**

*But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.*

1 John 1:9 (NLT)

*Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Renew a loyal spirit within me.*

Psalms 51:10 (NLT)

## **Jesus gives us a new face.**

*This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

*A glad heart makes a happy face...*

Proverbs 15:13a (NLT)

## **Jesus gives us a light inside.**

*“You are the light of the world - like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT)

*For God, who said, “Let there be light in the darkness,” has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.*

2 Corinthians 4:6 (NLT)

## **SO WHAT?**

## **Growth Group Questions**

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Do you love...like...meh...dislike...or hate Halloween? Why?

2. How did your parents present Halloween to you as a kid?

How do you explain it to the children in your life?

3. The pumpkin parable showed how a jack-o-lantern can represent Christ in us. Re-read 2 Corinthians 5:17. How did Christ begin to make changes in you when you came to know him?

4. Re-read Matthew 5:14-16. How do some people tend to hide the light of Christ in their lives?

5. How can we use opportunities like the Holiday season to let our light show to others?

How can we especially shine our light to children during this season?

6. Who desperately needs some light in their life that YOU can shine into?

What one thing can you do to shine Christ’s light into their world this Holiday season?