

Cool, crisp weather, leaves changing colors, hot cocoa, pumpkin spice, and everything nice — these things can only mean one thing —October is here!

October is mostly famous for one particular holiday at the end of the month. You guessed it: Halloween. Halloween seems like one of those holidays that can either be lighthearted and fun or it can be purely evil. Something that has a tendency to be both is quite frightening on its own. Kids like the trick or treating aspect. Some like to dress up in costumes. But, in reality the holiday began as a dark day with evil tendencies. Halloween can be dark. It can appear evil and scary. Some folks like to decorate their yards with scary décor and try to frighten folks as they walk by. Personally, I'm not a huge fan of the holiday, mostly because I don't like to be scared. And I don't like the dark undertones of the holiday itself. However, there is one thing that has always stood out to me. The Jack O Lanterns. I really enjoy seeing the pumpkins that small children have carved. Most of them have a smiling face all lit up by a small light inside of the pumpkin.

Even on a dark holiday, there can still be a little bit of light.

The world in which we live today, really seems like a never-ending Halloween. It appears to always be dark. Full of sin, chaos, and corruption. However, there can still be light even on the darkest of days. As children of God, it is our duty to shine the light into the darkness. It is our job to bring joy, love, and the light of Jesus into this evil world.

When a child carves a pumpkin, they don't want to hide it in the house where no one can see it. They want you to put it out on the front porch where everyone can see the glow of it's smiling face as it lights up the darkness.

Christian, we should live in this same manner. "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:14-16).

Don't forget to keep your light shining!

Don't hide it. Let everyone you encounter know that you are child of the King! Let's light up the darkness around us!

Growing with you in Christ,
Pastor Zack

