

August 26, 2020

Shine Your Light

Familiar, but what does that REALLY mean?

Matt 5:14-16

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

It's a familiar phrase: Shine your light! But what is my light and what is the stand on which I place it?

The light that you and I are to shine is our good deeds according to this passage. These are the deeds of your transformed life. Your renewed and regenerated spirit for which Christ died is now in charge of your life. However, people will never see it unless it shines through your deeds as you (your spirit) take charge of your physical life. Make your body submit to the made alive spirit within you. No longer allow your physical senses drive you to fulfill their desires, but make your body the slave of your Holy Spirit controlled inner man.

The stand we are to place it on is our daily willingness to put this life on display. To step into the darkness and to stand out.

It is a necessary and good thing to be faithful in our prayer closet. We are called to be engaged in ministering to our brothers and sisters within the church. We must be obedient in our private lives when no one is watching. All of these are PART of what a follower of Christ does.

The command of Christ here is very specific. We MUST take our transformed lives and put them on display for the world. Not in an arrogant look-at-me presentation, but in a humble, look-at-what-Christ-has-done-in-me presentation.

In the darkness, the follower of Christ will stand out as a shining light. Sticking out like a sore thumb comes to mind. But this is precisely what God prepared in advance for you to do (Ephesians 2:10). And when the change in us is seen by those around us, they will have the opportunity to glorify God for what He has done.