

A family of four is silhouetted against a bright, glowing background. The background features a large, simple cross shape. The family consists of a woman on the left holding the hand of a small child, a young child in the middle, and a man on the right. The overall scene is warm and spiritual, with a golden-yellow glow emanating from behind the figures and the cross.

Living as Light

Matthew 5:14-16

2000 Years Ago...

- In the spiritual and moral darkness of a lost world...
- Jesus breaks through on the stage of humanity
- ***“...the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”***

Matthew 4:16, NIV

Jesus, Light of the World...

Jesus spoke to the people saying, **“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

John 8:12, NIV

Light, while I am in the world...

Jesus also said, “**While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.**”

John 9:5, NIV

Out of the Darkness

Jesus called them to be light!

"You are the light of the world. A city 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 men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16, NIV



Leaving the Darkness Living the Light

No longer be a complainer about the darkness, rather be a lamp, a light that pushes back the darkness!



Moving Beyond the Darkness

Jesus says SHINE!

"You are the light of the world. A city 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 men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV)

Today, Jesus is still calling Christians to be Light

- **You are the light of the world.**
- ***You* (Ἑμεῖς) **are** (ἐστε) *the light of the world.***
 - ***You*** (second person **plural**; “you all”)
 - ***are*** (verb, present, indicative, **active**, second person, plural)
 - ***the light of the world.***

Consider two things that shine as light

- **A city 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.
- **Just as a city on the hill can not be hidden**
 - Palm Springs, CA at night looks light a brilliant jewel
- **Lamp in the house**
 - Don't put it under a bowl
 - Rather lift it up high on a stand

Wherever or whatever you are doing – SHINE!

- *In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*
- **Let your light shine**
 - Let your light shine before men
 - That they may see your good deeds
 - That they might praise your Father in heaven.

Letting Your Life Shine & Motive

- “...*let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*” (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV)
- Some folks here may quote, “*Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them.*” (Matthew 6:1, NIV)

So shine for the Heavenly Father

- *In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16, NIV)*
- **Just like a city on a hill**
- **Just like a lamp on a wall**
- **Just like Jesus...SHINE!**

How do we shine?

- **Certainly our shining is to be done in all our words and ways...**
- **But this shining of which Jesus speaks of here is a shining that is witnessed by others.**
- ***In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”***
(Matthew 5:14-16, NIV)

Shine so other see!

- ***“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” (James 1:27, NIV)***

Shine so others see!

- ***“The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.”***
(Matthew 11:5, NIV)

Shine so other see!

- ***"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." (Matthew 25:34-36, NIV)***

Shining leads to Salvation for People & Glory to God

- **When the church sees itself as shining it takes the light into the darkness**
- **It pushes back the darkness**
- **The world sees our good deeds**
- **Men & women come to the knowledge of Christ**
- **And God is glorified!**

**It's A Dark World Out There
Put Some SHINE Into It!**



Shine The Light!