

THE LIGHT WE CARRY

Jessica O'Shields // October 4-5, 2025

Big Idea: The world needs to see Jesus, and God has empowered and equipped us with the light of Christ. Of course, we can't reflect Him if we don't know Him, so we must keep our flame alive through a consistent and vital walk with the Lord as we courageously shine His light to those around us.

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV) *You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT) *But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.*

John 15:4-5 (NIV) *Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

2 Timothy 1:6-8 (NLT) *I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. ⁸ So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord.*

Philippians 2:15 (NLT) *Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.*

Start Talking:

How confident are you in sharing your faith in Christ with others? What fears or concerns do you have about this?

Start Thinking:

Read Matthew 5:14-16. What does it mean for you to be "the light of the world"?

Read 1 Peter 2:9. What are some practical ways you can "show others the goodness of God"?

Read John 15:4-5. Why is it so important to "remain in the vine" (abide in Christ) if we are going to shine His light to the world?

Read 2 Timothy 1:9 and Philippians 2:15. Why is courage a necessary and vital part of our testimony and witness for Christ? How can you overcome fear and grow stronger and more confident in your witness?

Start Praying and Doing:

Pray for opportunities to share the light and love of Jesus with people this week. Draw on the courage and confidence you have in Christ to represent him well in conversations and interactions with others.