

SERMON-BASED STUDY: YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Matthew 5:14-16, ESV – ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 What does it mean that *a city on a hill cannot be hidden*? How does this apply to how we should live our lives?
- 2 How does the original comparison of Jesus as the *light of the world* help us to understand our role as *the light of the world*?
- 3 How can you ensure your *light* is not hidden? How is this different from seeking glory for yourself?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **2 Corinthians 4:4-6, ESV** – ⁴ *In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* ⁵ *For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.* ⁶ *For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

4 What does it mean that Christ is the *image of God*? How does this relate to the blinding?

5 How does this passage help you understand why some people may not respond to the gospel, even when it is clearly presented?

6 What are practical ways we can reflect the *light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ* in our daily lives?

B **Ephesians 5:6-14a, ESV** – ⁶ *Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.* ⁷ *Therefore do not become partners with them;* ⁸ *for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light* ⁹ *(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),* ¹⁰ *and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.* ¹¹ *Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.* ¹² *For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.* ¹³ *But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible,* ^{14a} *for anything that becomes visible is light.*

7 Contrast *sons of disobedience* with *children of light*.

8 What does it mean to *expose the works of darkness*?

9 How can we *discern what is pleasing to the Lord*? What will be the evidence in our lives if we are walking in the light?

TAKING IT HOME

This week, we learned that we are the light of the world. How are you doing at being a light to the world around you? What are some things you can do to better shine the light to those around you? Spend some time in prayer, asking God what steps you need to take to be the light to the world.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 4:18-20

John 8:12

Acts 1:8

2 Peter 1:19