Influencing the World for Christ Matthew 5:16

Every believer in Jesus Christ is an ***influencer*** . That means that if ***you*** are a follower of Jesus, you are an influencer for Him. There are two groups of people: there are the ***believers*** , and there are the ***unbelievers*** of this world. Each person who belongs to these groups has the ***ability*** to influence others - for good or for bad.

Shine Brightly for All

KEY TAKEAWAY: The believer's influence is not due to what they have , but what they are ! Being blessed means having God's nature ***within*** . The word translated " ***peculiar*** " means "who constitute His possession." It is the difference in their ***character*** which distinguishes them.

Glorify God Through Good Works

KEY TAKEAWAY: The believer's good works are a result of the recieved free gift of salvation. We need not perform good works for any type of personal gain or recognition, but rather good works

provide an ***opportunity*** to point others towards Christ.

Illuminate Your Community

KEY TAKEAWAY: The believer must interact with this world of corruption and darkness in order to act as salt and light. We are called salt and light, and each of those things has a ***purpose.*** The usefulness of salt sits unrealized until it is ***applied*** to the food to preserve and enhance. Likewise, with the light, if it is never used to ***shine*** in the dark places, its usefulness is unrealized.

Conclusion

When we shine brightly before all men, and glorify God through our good works, our communities will be lit up with the light of Christ! Authentic Christian living serves as a beacon of hope, a shining light, that leads others to God, demonstrating that faith is not just personal but meant to impact the world.