

Living The Word Devotionals

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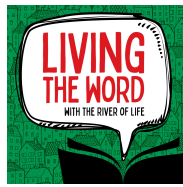
# All May See Your Good Works



By Jordon Reinle

*Matthew 5:15-16 - 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. 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.*

Matthew 5 begins Jesus's sermon on the mount. What is the sermon on the mount? Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down and taught the gathering crowds about many practical things and spiritual things. He starts off with the

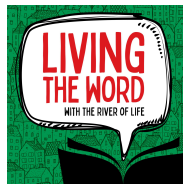


Beatitudes, which are the traits his followers should have. Then he teaches about a myriad of things like believers being the light, the law, anger, lust, divorce, vows, revenge, loving enemies, giving, prayer, fasting, money, worrying, judging, the golden rule, and the list goes on. It's his longest sermon recorded in the Bible. While many of these topics and ideas are familiar to us, His teaching is quite the contrast to the ways of the world.

Throughout Scripture, the concern of God is always with the heart. Proverbs 4:23 says, "*Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*" If our heart is rooted in Christ, then our lives will show evidence of this. If our heart is rooted in the world, and therefore ruled by Satan, then our lives will show evidence of this. Our heart is the steering wheel of our life and far too often I have found myself wanting to drive.

Our verses today start off with Jesus giving a practical and obvious practice about what someone should do with light in a house. The purpose of light is to illuminate. You don't turn a light on and then cover it up, that completely defeats the purpose. After the practical advice, Jesus then explains the exact same principle but in a spiritual context. We are the light of the world because of the Holy Spirit living in us. Jesus tells us to let our light shine. It doesn't make any sense for you to have encountered the saving grace of Jesus and not live it out, not put it on display, and not tell others about it.

What does it look like to let your light shine? Simply put, you should have evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life (Galatians 5:22) and all of your good



works should glorify God. Anyone can do good works. Jesus says we are to let our light shine, “so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Final Thoughts:

Our light only shines when Jesus shines through us. In other words, we are the moon. The moon does not produce its own light, but reflects the light of the Sun. We are to do the same thing but we are to reflect the light of the Son.

Lastly, now you know the scripture reference for a very famous song, “This Little Light Of Mine”. I want you to sing and teach your children or your grandchildren this song and teach them these two verses that we studied today because that’s where the song comes from. Christian, make your move.