

# Shining Lights: Revealing God's Glory

Shining our lights into the darkness to reveal God's glory to the lost!

John 8:12 New Living Translation Jesus, the Light of the World

12 Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

- Jesus is the light, and His light leads to life!
- Darkness is where sinners are forced to walk under the power of Satan, because of their refusal to deny themselves and follow God.
- The light goes beyond the knowledge of what is good and evil, but provides the power to do good resulting in eternal life, and glory for God the Father.
- His is the Kingdom, the power, the glory, forever, Amen.
- Light is the power over darkness that leads God's children to life.
- The light is His way, His truth, leading us to His life.

Matthew 5:13-16 Amplified Bible Disciples and the World

13 "You are the [a]salt of the earth; but if the salt has [b]lost its taste **(purpose)**, how can it be made salty? It is no longer good for anything, but to be thrown out and walked on by people [when the walkways are wet and slippery]. 14 "You are the light of [Christ to] the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; 15 nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good deeds and moral excellence, and [recognize and honor and] glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Footnotes

Matthew 5:13 In ancient times salt was often used as a preservative. Similarly, followers of Christ are to preserve both the gospel message and Christian values in the secular world.

Matthew 5:13 The salt from the Dead Sea contains impurities that affect its qualities as a seasoning and as a preservative.

- Is our salt effective? Does it preserve the way, the truth, that leads to His live in circle?
- Is our light effective? Do the people in our circle recognize and honor our lives in such a way that it brings glory/makes God look good.
- How does our salt season the culture, and how does our light lead others to marvel at God's way of doing things. Are His power and majesty on display, are we using our authority and dominion to transform and impact the darkness.

### Ashine-ments Assigned to Shine

Mark 16:16-18 New Living Translation

16 Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. 17 These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages.[a] 18 They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed."

- As a sign/shine demons will be powerless against the authority of a **believer**.
- As a sign/shine the power of darkness will not overcome them in any attempt to harm their lives.
- As a sign/shine sickness will leave when the believer places their hands on the sick.

### Walking into Life with the Power of Light

Galatians 5:16-26 New Living Translation Living by the Spirit's Power

16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. 17 The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. 18 But

when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. 19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. 22 But **the Holy Spirit produces** this kind of fruit (power/signs) in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! 24 **Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.** 25 Since we are **living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.** 26 **Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.**

- When you walk by the spirit, you have a spiritual mind and you're led by the spirit to please God by doing spiritual (life and peace bringing) things.

### ***So how does His light shine through us?***

2 Corinthians 4 New Living Translation Treasure in Fragile Clay Jars

4 Therefore, since God in his mercy has given us this new way,<sup>[a]</sup> we never give up. **2 We reject all shameful deeds and underhanded methods. We don't try to trick anyone or distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know this.** 3 **If the Good News we preach** is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. 4 Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. 5 You see, **we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake.** 6 For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure.<sup>[b]</sup> This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. 8 We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. 9 We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not

destroyed. 10 Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. 11 Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies. 12 So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you. 13 But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, "I believed in God, so I spoke."<sup>[c]</sup> 14 We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus,<sup>[d]</sup> will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. 15 All of this is for your benefit. And as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory. 16 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are<sup>[e]</sup> being renewed every day. 17 For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! 18 So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

John 9:1-11 New Living Translation Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. 2 "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" 3 "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. **(I'm going to use this sickness/darkness as a canvas to display to shine a light for my Father's glory)** 4 We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. (ASHINEMENTS)<sup>[a]</sup> The night is coming, and then no one can work. 5 But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. 7 He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent"). So the man went and washed and came back seeing! 8 His neighbors and others who knew him as a blind beggar asked each other, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some said he was, and others said, "No, he just looks like him!" But the beggar kept saying, "Yes, I am the same one!" 10 They asked, "Who healed you? What happened?" 11 He told them, "The man they call Jesus made mud and spread it over my eyes and told me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash yourself.' So I went and washed, and now I can see!"

### John 17:1-6 New Living Translation The Prayer of Jesus

17 After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. 2 For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. 3 And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. 4 I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began. 6 "I have revealed you[a] to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

- Our purpose is to reveal God