



Shining Brighter, Together

2 Peter 2:9; Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:13-16 | September 7, 2025

SERIES THEME: We are the light of the world because of the Light that lives in us.

MESSAGE THEME: The light God began to shine in us 50 years ago is still burning, and we commit to carrying it forward, shining brighter together.

As we celebrate our 50th anniversary as a church, we thank everyone who has contributed to this body of believers since our founding on September 7, 1975. You have made a tremendous impact in the Kingdom of God and have helped this church be a source of encouraging light! We know that in each season of the last 50 years, God has remained faithful, and so have His people. We pray for that ongoing faithfulness and dream about what God has in store for the next 50 years!

What will it take for us to continue being a City on a Hill?

We will need to...

- » **Accept** what's asked of us.
- » **Remove** what's hindering us.
- » **Shine** what's in us. (Ephesians 5:8)

QUESTION TO THINK ABOUT: Where will you shine your light?

NOTES: _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Men's Event on Sunday, Sept. 14 at 6:00 PM

Habitat for Humanity Build on Sept. 21 at 9:00 & 10:30 AM

Women's Bible Study begins on Sept. 23 and Sept. 25

Download our WCChurch app or scan the QR code for more info or to sign up!



STUDY QUESTIONS

GETTING STARTED:

Reflecting on the past 50 years, when you think about the faith of those who came before us, what inspires you most?

A DEEPER DIVE:

The Spirit of Jesus.

- Which of these evidences that the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) is working through me needs more prayerful consideration — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control?

The church stands for life.

- Which realization that Jesus brings and cares about life (John 10:10) would make me a stronger and more faithful follower of Him — practicing the fact that eternal life starts here and now, respecting the lives of everyone of every age all around me, or rejoicing in the hope of life after life?

We need family, fellowship, and community.

- How can I appreciate and offer (Ephesians 2:19) a loving and serving family of faith to both long-term and brand-new followers of Jesus and seekers after life in this fellowship? Will we be “people who are his very own?”

Read Matthew 5:14-16.

- Explain the personal and communal call of being “the light of the world” and “a city on a hill.”
- In verse 15, Jesus warns about hiding light under a basket. How do you see those baskets show up in your own life or in the life of the church? What baskets need to be removed?

THIS WEEK'S APPLICATION:

This season has served as a celebration and a catalyst. **How might God be stirring in your life to carry “the light” further?**