

### **MOAGA - Let Your Light Shine**

*Proverbs 4:18-19; Isaiah 58:3-9a; Philipians 2:14-18; Matthew 5:11-20*

The world is full of darkness and \_\_\_\_\_. Things stop \_\_\_\_\_ the way they should. Unseen \_\_\_\_\_ lurk. Chaos, confusion, and anxiety reign.

Maybe you have an unequivocal optimism about the future of humanity. You wouldn't be alone. Listen to what HG Wells said in 1937... But such untempered optimism is largely \_\_\_\_\_, uninformed, or untested. I doubt many \_\_\_\_\_ believe it after what we've seen recently. Listen to what HGW said a few short years later...

The world is full of darkness and decay. It's \_\_\_\_\_ to accept, but it's true.

Enter Jesus, who says, "*I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world...*" (John 8:12) He exposed the darkness of humanity hiding in plain sight and lit the path back to our heavenly Father and a vibrant future: \_\_\_\_\_. (John 14:6)

Now he tells us, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world...let your light \_\_\_\_\_"

If you are a \_\_\_\_\_, the light of Jesus shines in you and through you. But to people in darkness it can be almost \_\_\_\_\_. We are constantly mocked and told to \_\_\_\_\_ up the light shining in us. Satan \_\_\_\_\_ us to do the same. Don't. When it happens, Jesus says you are "\_\_\_\_\_"! He says, "Rejoice and be glad"! He says, "\_\_\_\_\_ is your \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven"! (Matt 5:11-12)

The stares, the ridicule, the reaction of others is proof it's \_\_\_\_\_. This world needs Jesus far more than we may have EVER realized. There is no GOOD reason to hide it.

Just make sure it's because of \_\_\_\_\_ in you and not \_\_\_\_\_ that they are reacting to!

It's not easy. In fact, we may be living in a culture that may be the most \_\_\_\_\_ and difficult to reach in history.

That's why we need \_\_\_\_\_ and why we are aiming to help train, equip, and support 50 homegrown missionaries.

If you just walk out of here and say, "*Yes, I'll be a light shining for Jesus in a dark and evil world, but I don't really want to \_\_\_\_\_ to anything, certainly not anything hard!*" Then you will \_\_\_\_\_ and so will OA.

This missionary moment is far more \_\_\_\_\_ than what is going on in our country. Will you allow \_\_\_\_\_ brothers and sisters in Christ to help you get your light out from under the basket?

As you think about it this week, consider these questions:

*How did the light of Jesus shine through others to bring you to faith?*

*What was your initial reaction? How and when did it change?*

*How are you hiding your light under a basket?*

*Will you commit to giving a small sliver of your time, talent, and treasure to sharing the Gospel with this "crooked and twisted generation"?*

*If not, what WILL you do? Before your light burns out...*

