All In with Jordan Easley

Make A Difference

Our Mission | Week 3 | Matthew 5:14-16

INTRODUCTION

I love the fact that when Jesus says, "You are the light of the world," He includes people like you and people like me. This wasn't a metaphor that exclusively applied to a distinguished few. It was a metaphor that relates to all who believe in Christ and have dedicated their life to following Him. If you know Jesus today, then you are the light of the world. And we can agree that light makes a difference in the darkness. But in order for that difference to be made, three things need to happen.

KEY POINTS

1. The light must be turned on.

Your life won't make a difference in the darkness as long as you're living without the light of Jesus. It's only when you follow Jesus that you are able to experience His light and step into a new life.

So when I say that a light must be turned on in order to make a difference, the only way a light gets turned on is through Jesus. Jesus alone saves. And when Jesus saves you and truly becomes your Lord and Savior, He turns the light on in your life.

2. The light must have power.

A powerful flashlight with a dead battery is worthless. A dead flashlight doesn't make a difference in the darkness. We need power in order for our light to shine for Jesus. But where does that power come from? Well, according to Scripture, there are 10 ways the Holy Spirit empowers us as believers:

- He helps you. [John 16:7]
- He sanctifies you. [1 Cor. 6:11]
- He makes you more like Jesus. [2 Cor. 3:18]
- He points you to The Father's will. [Acts 8:29]
- He gifts you for ministry. [1 Cor. 12:4-11]
- He displays God's love to you. [Rom. 5:3-5]
- He gives you hope. [Rom. 15:13]
- He teaches you and gives you insight. [John 14:26]
- He guides your prayers. [Rom. 8:26]
- He uses you to share the gospel with others. [Acts 1:8]

NOTES

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3. The light must be displayed.

If you're saved today, it's because Jesus saved you. He turned the light on in your life. And the Holy Spirit is who keeps that light on. He provides you with the power you need. But even after all of that, you've still got to decide if you're going to display that light or not.

There are far too many undercover Christians who are living an incognito life of following Jesus. We work with people who don't have a clue what we believe. We go to school with people who think we're just like everybody else. We may even have family members who don't know about our faith or our hope or our relationship with the Lord. If that's true, shame on us! God has called us to make a difference and we can't do that in the dark. We have to choose to let our light shine boldly before others so that they might see Jesus in us. NOTES

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Has Jesus saved you and turned on the light in your life?
- 2. How are you staying connected to the power source (the Holy Spirit) so that your light can shine?
- 3. What is one practical way you can display your light this week so that you can point others to Christ?

