



TITLE: LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

BIG IDEA: A generous life shines bright with good works that draw unbelievers and glorify our Father.

ICE BREAKER: Share about a time when you were not a good Christian example in public, or to family, or friends.

MAIN SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 5:14-16 (+ Ephesians 2:10, 5:16, 1 Timothy 6:18, Hebrews 10:23-24)

OPENING THOUGHTS:

Christians can get to live in such a way that our lives communicate that doing good works are optional. Jesus, however, not only taught that good works must be a part of the believer's life, but he also modeled a lifestyle filled with doing good. Jesus uses the metaphor of our good works being like a bright shining light. Today we explore some challenges to shining bright.

MAIN POINTS:

- Shining our light is not optional; it's what believers do!
- Good works are actions prepared by God that promote goodness, attract unbelievers, and glorify our Father.
- Believers must actively take advantage of the opportunity to do good.
- We need each other's encouragement to stay the course and persevere until the Day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Jesus say in Matthew 5:14-16 is the result when we let our light shine brightly?
2. Assign the other Scriptures to different people in your group and ask them to answer this after some reflection; what does this passage further reveal to us about the nature of good works? Ephesians 2:10, 5:16, 1 Timothy 6:18, Hebrews 10:23-24
3. What Scripture, point from the sermon, or idea from discussion has convicted you the most?
4. In what way is the Holy Spirit leading you to live a more generous life regarding your time, treasure, and talent--specifically in their relationship to good works?
5. There's a popular trend right now on social media of people recording themselves doing kind things for strangers; what do you think about this? Does it promote and spur others to do the same? Does the person doing the good deed lose their reward in before God?

FURTHER STUDY:

CHALLENGE:

WHEN WE LIVE LIKE THIS....when we allow our light to shine with our good works they will draw unbelievers and glorify our Father. Wow. The way I live can either draw people to the light of Christ or turn them away. Let us be careful then, how we live, not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity because the days are evil.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Lord, grant us the wisdom to let our light shine, the guidance to know what good works we ought to do, the courage to buy back time, the care to encourage one another, and the endurance to be rich with good works until we see you face to face. Amen.