

Spend time this week reflecting on the following questions:

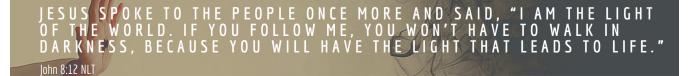
1) Write your own verse for *This Little Light of Mine,* that resonates with where you feel God is calling you to shine. Make it your anthem this week.

- Examples "At lunch in the breakroom, I'm gonna let it shine.", "When I walk my dog...", "When I'm with my fa - mily..."
- Some of you may realize that maybe you aren't actually positioned in your life very close to marginalized people that are in places of real darkness. if so, your verse might be, "Holy Spirit lead me, Show me where to shine!"

2) Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any prejudices that we might have that might hinder us from truly reflecting Christ's Light of Love, purely and effectively?

3) Who do we need to see this week, that are in need of a little Love being shone on into their day?

4) What is one specific action that you can take to build a bridge, bringing light to someone or a system that is in, or perpetuating, darkness?



A Blessing for When You're Tired of Broken Systems

- adapted from Kate C Bowler and Jessica Richie

Oh God, I am done with broken systems that break the very people they are meant to serve.

Harness this anger! channel it into worthy action and show me what is mine to fix and what boundaries to patrol to keep goodness in and evil out.

God have mercy Christ have mercy Spirit have mercy

They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water. Jeremiah 2:13

God have mercy Christ have mercy Spirit have mercy

Blessed are we who are appalled that brute ignorance can so easily dominate over decency, honesty and integrity.

Blessed are we who choose not to look away from systems that dehumanize, deceive, defame and distort. We who recognize that thoughts and prayers are not enough.

Blessed are we who stand with truth over expediency, principle over politics, community over competition. Oh God, how blessed are we who cry out to you: empower us to see and name what is broken, what is ours to restore, guide us to find coherent and beautiful alternatives that foster life, hope and peace. Help us to use our gifts with one another in unity.

Blessed are we who choose to bear the tension of leaning into this vision while living in the not yet.

In God all things hold together Colossians 1:17

God have mercy Christ have mercy Spirit have mercy

God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. Deuteronomy 33:27

Blessed are we who choose to live in anticipation, our eyes scanning the horizon, for signs of your kingdomheaven-come-downas we wait in hope and act with courage.

Amen