

Sunday  
8th Oct.  
2023

We are the  
light of the  
world  
Matt.5:14-16



- **MATTHEW 5:14-16 NIV.**

- 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

- 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.



# **1. If we are the Light, we need to walk in the Light.**

a) Repentance is key to our journey with Jesus, according to the Bible dictionary, the word repentance literally means “the act of changing one’s mind.”

b) True biblical repentance goes beyond remorse, regret, or feeling bad about one's sin. It involves more than merely turning away from sin. That's why we see Jesus beginning His ministry with the word 'Repent'.

... Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, ... From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (*Matthew 4:12-17*)



John adds by saying, "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin"

*(1 John 1:5-7).*



Most of the people who sat on the hill to listen to Jesus, were ordinary men and women, probably many of them didn't know who this Jesus was, a few of them had seen some things he had done. Nevertheless, he told these people you are the salt and light of the world.

Light cannot be anything other than what it is. **It's bright; it dispels darkness; it enables us to see what we are doing.**

God is light, and since He sent His Holy Spirit to live inside believers, we are his ambassadors on this earth.

## **2. If we are the Light, we need to live as children of light.**

The sermon on the mountain lays out Jesus' moral vision for humanity, emphasizing the importance of compassion, humility, and forgiveness.



While delivering his message on the mountain in Matthew 5, Jesus brings out the message of LOVE as he encourages his listeners to love their enemies and pray for them.

John echoes these words by saying;

*“Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. 10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.*

*(1 John 2:9-10 NIV)*

b) We need to forgive each other, care for the poor and marginalized.

**3. If we are the light, we need to SERVE as children of the light.**

a) Verse 15, Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.



b) Put your light on its stand by taking your place.

*“Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. (Matthew 10-32).*

c) These people who met Jesus on the mountain were common, ordinary people with no titles, no positions, they were peasants and fishermen and tax collectors, not Scribes or Pharisees or Sadducees, they were people like us with their own weakness, yet Jesus referred to them as “The light of the world.”



d) While talking about a thorn in his own flesh Apostle Paul said this; *“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*



*“Therefore, I will boast all more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”*

*(2 Corinthians 12:8-9).*

e) We all have our own thorn or weakness, but the Lord’s grace is sufficient for us.

# Conclusion:

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers.

... against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (*Ephesians 6:10- 12*)



Since we are the light of the world, we need to rise up today against any forces of evil in our society without fear.

The question today, are we still shining bright? Or have we let our light grow dim?

- Someone said that our light get dim when we stop praying, stop reading our Bible, when we stop going to Bible study, when we stop going to church, when we separate ourselves from other believers and when we separate ourselves from God.