

Week 2

Day 1

Scripture Matthew 5:14

Last week we talked about what it means to be the salt of the earth. This week we are going to talk about what it means to be the light of the world. Chapter 5 is probably Jesus' most famous sermon, called the Sermon on the Mount and it has all kinds of good teachings in there. Specifically, in verse 14 Jesus teaches we are to be the light of the world.

Think about a flashlight, it's one of the most essential tools we have. In fact it is so useful they are pretty much built in every phone. Now while we have a flashlight in our pockets almost every day, how much have you really thought about the purpose of a flashlight? It is designed to shine its light in the darkness. Darkness can be very different depending on the situation, sometimes it may be the only light in a dark forest or it could be finding that thing you dropped between the couch cushions. Either way a flashlight is most effective in the dark, but not as much in the light.

The same is true for us as Christians, while it is helpful and encouraging for us to be around other Christians, our biggest impact is felt when we use our light to make a difference in the world. Christ called us to be a light for the world, but we can't be effective without being properly charged. We charge our spiritual batteries by spending time in prayer and reading the bible.

Day 2

Scripture Isaiah 60:1-3

Have you ever noticed how many bugs fly around lights at night? Whether it's a porch light, street light or lights from a baseball field; you can look up at night and see hundreds of bugs just gravitating to the light. They're not even sure why it's just a part of their instinct.

In our scripture today Isaiah talks about all nations will be drawn to our light. In the same way that the bugs may not know what draws them to light, there will be people drawn to your light that don't really know why. They may not know what it is that makes you so different, or even know you are a Christian but if you are trying every day to be the light Jesus called us to be they will notice you are different.

This might feel scary, and that's ok. To be a light may feel like a lot of pressure to be perfect but we put that pressure on us not Jesus. In our scripture today it tells us exactly what the light they see is and it's nothing we have done on our own, but the glory of the Lord. We just have to keep being diligent in our daily habits and have faith that God's glory will be enough to be the light the world needs.

Day 3

Scripture John 8:12

Yesterday we talked about where our light comes from and today's scripture talks about that. If you notice this scripture is in red which means these are words Jesus said. Jesus is teaching us that our light comes from following him. When we do our best to follow Jesus we have an impact on those around us.

In the verses before Jesus has been asked by the Pharisees about what he should do with a woman caught in adultery. Jesus' response takes them by surprise because he doesn't handle it the way he is "supposed" to, but instead he doesn't judge her. He turns it around on the Pharisees that whoever has never sinned be the first to cast judgement. Living like Jesus isn't about walking around feeling like we are better than anyone but treating everyone as equals, and helping them feel seen and cared for. When we treat people like Jesus would especially in hard situations, his light will be seen all over us.

Spending time reflecting in prayer and scripture helps us understand how much we owe Jesus for the grace he has given to us. This helps us to in turn show that same love and grace to people. When we recognize what Jesus has done for us it fills our heart so we can pour out his love to others, and that is our light. That's what makes us so different, so we can be a light in this dark world.

Day 4 Prayer

Take some time today and spend it in prayer. Spend time thanking God for the good things in your life and the ways he has shown up for you. Pray for an attitude that reflects him. Don't rush your prayer today, and don't be afraid of silence. Remember it is in that silence that we can hear him.

Day 5 Catch up

We know life gets crazy so take today to catch up on what you may have missed so far this week.

Day 6 Questions

1. Who is someone in your life that you consider a light? What do they do that makes you feel this way?
2. Is there someone that you know that could use a light in their life?

Day 7 Journal

Maybe journaling last week was a struggle for you so today set a goal. Maybe today you set a timer and just write your thoughts and feelings down for 5 min, or maybe your goal is to write a few sentences. Whatever it is, just know taking the time to reflect is always worthwhile even if it feels hard at first.