

III. HOW ARE CHRISTIANS TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD?

THE LIGHT HAS COME! Shine The Light Pastor Steve Reynolds

A. The first requirement is surrender.

¹⁶ *"Let your light so shine before men..."*

Matthew 5:16a

²⁰ *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

Galatians 2:20

¹⁵ *"And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel."*

Acts 6:15

B. The second requirement is service.

¹⁶ *"...that they may see your good works..."*

Matthew 5:16b

¹⁸ *"But someone will say, 'You have faith, and I have works.' Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."*

James 2:18

² *"You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;*

³ *clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart."*

II Corinthians 3:2-3

C. The third requirement is soulwinning.

¹⁶ *"...and glorify your Father in heaven."*

Matthew 5:16c

³⁰ *"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise."*

Proverbs 11:30

¹⁴ *"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"*

Romans 10:14

SHINE THE LIGHT

Introduction:

A. Happy New Year!

Have you ever considered the very first thing God created was light? Genesis 1:3 reveals, *"Then God said, 'Let there be light; and there was light.'"* God created light first because nothing can literally survive physically without it.

In a similar way Jesus came to earth as God wrapped in flesh to be light and to rescue us from darkness. He did this because none of us can thrive spiritually, emotionally or mentally without Jesus as our Light.

¹² *"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'"*

John 8:12

⁴⁶ *"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."*

John 12:46

B. You might feel like the light has gone out in your life. Attend THE LIGHT HAS COME! Teaching Series to discover how the Light of Christmas can brighten your dark days.

Dec 7	Believe The Light
Dec 14	Celebrate The Light
Dec 21	Worship The Light
Dec 23-24	Receive The Light
TODAY	Shine The Light

TEXT: Matthew 5:14-16

Jesus said, *"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world"* (John 9:5). But in Matthew 5:14 Jesus now says to His followers, *"You are the light of the world."* What this means is that Jesus is the Light and Christians are now the reflected light of Jesus.

HOW TO SHINE THE LIGHT

I. WHO IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD?

A. All Christians are to be the light in a dark world.

¹⁴ *"You are the light of the world..."*
Matthew 5:14a

⁹ *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"*
I Peter 2:9

⁸ *"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."* Ephesians 5:8

B. Christians are to shine brightly like a city on a hill.

¹⁴ *"...A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden."*
Matthew 5:14b

¹⁴ *"Do all things without complaining and disputing,*
¹⁵ *that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,*
¹⁶ *holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain."*
Philippians 2:14-16

II. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF CHRISTIANS AS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD?

A. Do not privately conceal your light.

¹⁵ *"Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand..."*
Matthew 5:15a

²⁵ *"The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe."*
Proverbs 29:25

⁵ *"You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness."*
I Thessalonians 5:5

B. Do collectively spread the light to everyone.

¹⁵ *"...and it gives light to all who are in the house."*
Matthew 5:15b

³ *"Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever."*
Daniel 12:3

⁴⁷ *"For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.'"*
Acts 13:47

