

# Sermon on the Mount – week 7

## You Are The Light

### #Matthew 5:14-16

We identified that the word “you” is referring to those disciples who followed Jesus up the mountain to listen closely to Jesus and who are described in the beatitudes listed in v3-10. True disciples.

### #Jesus declares the believer to be “the light of the world”

Just as we ARE salt Jesus is stating we ARE light. He is not saying we should become light, true believers ARE the light the world.

Then he makes the point that we need to let our light shine.

The clear implication is that we can also **NOT** let our light shine. Just as we learned that salt can lose its saltiness.

### #Jesus gives us an object lesson -

A city on a hill cannot be hidden – NOR do they light a lamp and put it under a basket.

The use of the word “Nor” pairs up two negatives

1. A city cannot be hidden
2. A lamp is not lit to be hidden

Drawing our attention to the obvious – and then drawing an application to our choice to (1) let our light shine or (2) hide our light.

### #A True Disciple

- Cannot be hidden
- Is not lit to be covered

The parallel is that a **true disciple** is also obvious and observable to those nearby. If we have the beatitudes that Jesus just listed in v3-11 then we certainly stand out from the multitude. These are not common traits, they are traits that belong to the true believer. It’s just a fact.

A city on a hill is obvious to all. No effort is required for the city to be visible and observed by anyone in the area. It’s right there out in the open. People would not try to hide a city on a hill. In the same way you would not light a lamp to hid it under a basket.

### How are we “Lit”?

### 2 Corinthians 5:17

<sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

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## #Jesus Declares Purpose

Jesus has a **purpose** for his disciples to shine before men.

**Not to be hidden - Not lit to be covered**

**“let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”**

Jesus has a **purpose** for his disciples to shine before men.

We are to provide light to “all in the house” – **so that** they may see our good works and give glory to our father who is in heaven.

## #Last week review - Light of the World – Our Role

- **Reveal Truth – Model Truth – Good Works**
- **Expose sin**
- **Warn of judgment**
- **Ministry of reconciliation**
- **Ambassadors**

**Jesus lights us up “so that” we will be empowered to be His ambassador**

## #The Message of 5:3-16

To fulfill our purpose, we must first be authentic

- Be Authentic (as described in v3-11)
- Shine
- Do Good Works
  
- How do we shine?
- What good works are we to do?

You can't do good works or shine unless you are truly his disciple

## #The Believer Has Choice

- Can lose saltiness
- Can hide light

We as believers still have choice in how we live. Whether we obey, and whether we choose to sin. Our choice is not removed from us simply because we are saved.

In Genesis the lord said, “Let there be light – **and it was so**” and each time he said let there be... it was so.

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Jesus said let your light shine before others – and what is the believer's response?

We still have the choice of obedience or disobedience.

## #Our Choices

- How can we hide the light?
- What does it look like if we hide our light?
- What does it look like if we let our light shine?

## #Peter as an example

- How did Peter hide his light?
  - John 18:15-17, 25-27
- Why did Peter hide his light?
- How was Peter restored?
  - John 21:15-17

Can you identify with Peter?

## #Do you love me?

- Why did Jesus ask Peter – do you love me?
- What does our love of Jesus have to do with letting our light shine?

## Conclusion

Can you think of a time when you hid your light?

What obstacles do you need to overcome to let your light shine more brightly?

How do you answer Jesus' question "Do you love me"?