

Additional notes from sermon slides are available at http://southhillschurch.org/our-ministries/sermon-online/

"Life on Mission"
(Part 2 –Ten Descriptions of a Life on Mission)
"A Bright Light for Jesus"
Matthew 5:14-16
Jan. 20, 2019

- 1. God / Jesus is the Light. (I John 1:5; Jn. 8:12; 9:5; 2 Cor. 4:6)
- 2. Faith in Jesus brings us into the light. (Psalm 27:1; John 12:36, 46)

Therefore...

- Live as children of the light A New Identity! (Eph. 5:8; I Thess. 5:5)
- Walk in the light New Choices! (Isaiah 2:5; Romans 13:12; Eph. 5:9; Psalm 119:105)
- Share the light A New Purpose! (Acts 26:23)

Application:

- 1. Have you put your trust in Jesus as your only hope for God's light in your life? When people see you do they see His light? What needs to change for God's light to shine through you?
- 2. Pray for opportunities to share His light this week.
- 3. Embrace your identity as a "child of the light." Resist the lies of Satan that wants you to live in darkness.



Additional notes from sermon slides are available at http://southhillschurch.org/our-ministries/sermon-online/

Life Group Questions/ Discussion

<u>Main Thought of the Study</u> – Jesus calls us to be the light of the world. What does it mean and how can we truly shine for Jesus every day?

<u>Introduction Discussion</u> – Share a time when the power was out and you had to manage living in the dark. Were you prepared? Afraid? How did you feel when the power returned?

Reflections from the Message

- 1. What does it mean when the Scripture says that God is "light?" (I John 1:5) If God is light, how would you describe the "darkness" of the world? (John 3:18) When Jesus declared that He was the light of the world, (John 8:12; 9:5) what does Jesus bring to the world? (2 Cor. 4:6) Give examples of spiritual "darkness" that you encounter in your life.
- 2. Share the difference in your life when you trusted in Christ. What evidence of "light" did you observe? (Psalm 27:1; John 12:36, 46)
- 3. Your new identity as a "child of light" should make a difference in how you live. (Eph. 5:8) Discuss the power to resist temptation, if you know your identity in Christ. Share various "labels" that were given to you throughout your life and how it had an impact on your choices. (Clumsy? Stupid? Messy? Slow? Loud? Shy? Etc.) Share with one another all of the positive descriptions of our identity in Christ.
- 4. In Romans 13:12 tells us to "cast off" the works of darkness. Share examples with one another of decisions that you make to get rid of darkness in your life. We are to shine bright for Jesus. (Matt. 5:15-16) What does it look like to hide the light? Why do we tend to do that?

Application:

- 1. Discuss practical ways to "shine" for Jesus this week. Identify areas in our community where the light of Jesus is needed. Is there something you can do as a group to make a difference?
- 2. Discuss the specific fears you have in sharing the light of Jesus. How can we help one another? How can we pray for one another? Pray for greater boldness this week.
- 3. As a church, brainstorm ways for us as a church to shine for Jesus in our community.