**THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE**

**I’M GONNA LET IT SHINE**

**Matthew 5: 14-16 [14](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-5-14/%22%20%5Co%20%22Matthew%205%3A14%20KJV%20verse%20detail) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.** [**15**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-5-15/) **Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.**

**INTRO**

**Illustration:**

**A Person Is Like A Flashlight.**

 **1. The Shell**

**\*\*That is us as people, but just because we have a shell as a person, it does not mean our light is shining.**

 **2. The Shine**

**\*\*The shine comes from the bulb, and that represents Jesus. He's the light of the world. Without His light, we will not shine for the Lord. His light shines in us if we are saved.**

 **3. The Source**

**\*\*It takes power to make the bulb shine in our lives. That source is salvation, the blood of Jesus, and His grace.)**

 **4. The Switch**

**\*\*Something has to make the connection and cause a current to flow from the batteries to the blub. The switch does that, and the switch and the stream is the Spirit! It turns on a light within us.**

**\*\*Notice three things about this light of mine that I'm gonna let it shine!**

**I. Notice the Power of this Light**

**Matthew 5:14a Ye are the light of the world**

 **A. This Light Conquers Darkness**

 **1. Jesus' Light will help you to drive the right path**

 **2. Jesus' Light will help you to dodge the road's potholes**

**Illustration: Years ago young people would walk a path with a lantern in the dark. One old farmer told a group of young boys that he was able to walk in the dark when he went a courtin' and never carried a lantern to see by.**

**"yep", said one of the boys, "and look at how ugly of a woman you ended up with!"**

**Psalm 119:105 Let God's word be a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path.**

 **B. This Light Colors Drabness**

**\*\*Without Light there is no color!**

 **1. Jesus' Light will Brighten your life!**

 **2. Jesus' Light will Bless your life!**

 **C. This Light Changes Dreariness**

 **1. The Light of Christ warms my cold soul and brightens my day!**

 **2. The Light of Christians warms my chilly soul and brightens my day!**

**\*\*There is power in the Light - I'm gonna let it shine!**

**II. Notice the Places of the Light**

 **A. There's the Light of an Institution**

**\*\* The bible refers to this light that is a "city on a hill". A city does not have one light but many lights!**

**1. We must let our lights shine as a Community of Faith**

 **a. By our standards of worship we let our lights shine**

 **b. By our style of worship we let our lights shine**

 **2. We must let our lights shine as a Collection of Followers**

**\*\*When all followers of Christ let their lights shine, the City of Followers lights shining together:**

 **a. Makes the Hill Brighter!**

 **b. Makes the Hill Beautiful!**

**Illustration: Have everybody turn on their cell phone lights! Some turn their lights off. The point is the more lights we have shinning, the brighter our light will be collectively. When lights are missing, our light as a church collectively does not shine as bright.**

 **B. There's the Light of an Individual**

**Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.**

**\*\* Houses in that day had no windows. These "candles" were actually oil lamps that lit up the room and they had to stay on to see in the house.**

 **1. It lit the way of the Occupants of the House**

 **2. It lit the way of the Outsiders of the House**

**Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed?**

**\*\*The bushel speaks of a world of labor (too busy). The bed speaks of a world of leisure (too lazy).**

 **a. Don't Hide your light from outsiders under a bushel of Shame!**

 **b. Don't hide your light from outsiders under a bushel of Shyness!**

 **c. Don't hide your light from outsiders under a bushel of Sin!**

**III. Notice the Purpose of this Light**

**Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

 **A. It is a Witness to the Lost**

 **1. The light is for the purpose of shinning on the good works of our life - the good work God does in our lives**

**\* This is a witness to those who do not know the Lord or have his light!**

 **B. It is a Witness to the Lord**

 **1. The Light that Shines in our lives is a powerful Testimony to our Lord.**

 **2. The Light that Shines in our lives is a proven testimony to the Lord.**

**CLOSE**

**Is your light Shinning today?**

**Are you a light for Jesus?**

**Does your Shell have a bulb in it - Jesus?**

**Does your Shell have batteries in it - Salvation, blood, grace?**

**Does your switch come on (the Spirit) that turns your light on?**