

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS





Matthew 5:13-16 The Message (MSG)

Salt and Light

¹³ “Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavours of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ “Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

Discussion questions:

-  What would God-flavours taste like?
-  What would God-colours look like?
-  If you were a colour, what colour would you be?
-  You and I were created to be a light to those around us. What makes it difficult to hide light?

Light of the World Object Lesson Script

This is a flashlight. If you're going someplace you know will be dark, you're gonna want to bring one of these along. For instance, if you're going camping where there aren't any electric lights, you can just switch this on. You're going to need a flashlight to see when the sun goes down. You might use a flashlight to see things where the light can reach, like underneath the table or a shelf. Has the power ever gone out in your house because of a storm? Flashlights are really helpful then.

Did you know that God wants us to be lights. I know we don't actually glow like light bulbs, but he's talking about a different kind of light. Jesus told a parable in Matthew 15 through 16, “neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl instead they put it on its stand and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” So you see God wants us to use our

words and actions to shine the light of Christ. If people see that you're a good and faithful person, they will wonder what makes you that way, and that's how you shine the light. You tell them that Jesus makes you that way.

When you shine the light in darkness, what happens to the darkness? It disappears. The light takes over. Some people live in the darkness. They don't know how to have joy or goodness because they've been in the dark so long without Jesus Christ. But if you come near them and live life with them, you can act like this flashlight, and shine light into their darkness. Don't ever be afraid because God always provides the light.

Discussion questions:

- “God wants us to use our words and actions to shine the light of Christ.”
How have you been using your words?
- What would Jesus say about the words that you use?
- As a family, or with your friends, talk about how we use our words with each other.
- Why are our words so important?
- “You can act like a flashlight.” What does it mean to ***act like a flashlight?***
Who do you know who has been ‘acting like a flashlight’? Take time this week to thank them for behaving like Christ.

Activity:

- ✚ Use only torchlight in your house before going to bed (only when it's not a school night!!)
- ✚ Draw or paint
- ✚ Complete the wordsearch online or print a copy
- ✚ PRAY!!!

BEING LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

T	A	R	H	S	T	M	R	E	W	O	P	T	D
T	H	G	I	L	S	N	O	I	T	C	A	U	A
S	S	E	N	K	R	A	D	S	S	D	R	O	W
T	O	R	C	H	G	S	H	I	N	E	V	S	S
R	S	A	L	A	M	P	S	T	A	N	D	A	E
S	F	O	Y	T	I	C	I	R	T	C	E	L	E
O	L	H	G	E	N	E	R	O	U	S	O	L	R
R	A	S	L	U	F	H	T	I	A	F	D	R	C
P	S	R	Y	H	N	E	S	I	A	R	P	I	O
N	H	D	S	E	G	O	D	L	I	N	E	S	S
E	N	I	L	A	S	S	R	K	G	R	O	R	N
B	E	H	A	V	I	O	U	R	C	Y	S	E	H
U	I	U	I	E	E	H	O	R	U	O	L	O	C
W	I	E	R	N	L	Y	Y	T	S	E	N	O	H

GENEROUS
 ELECTRICITY
 ACTIONS
 GODLINESS
 POWER
 FLASH
 FAITHFUL
 HEAVEN
 LAMPSTAND
 SHINE
 HONESTY
 BEHAVIOUR
 COLOUR
 DARKNESS
 PRAISE
 TORCH
 WORDS
 LIGHT

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1108018/>

(Puzzle created by Brigitte Crowe)