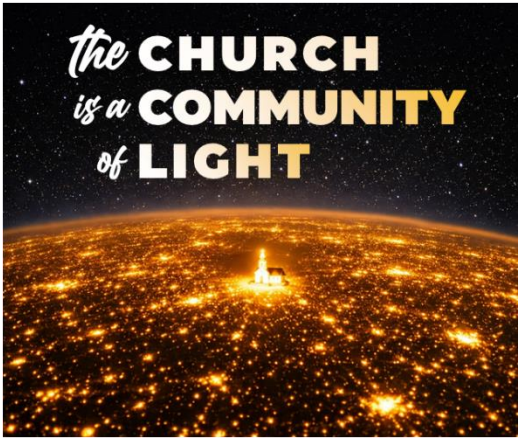


The Church Is a Community of Light

(Part 1)



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

The World Is _____ for Light

God Is the _____ of our Light

(1 John 1:5) This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

We were _____ before we were Light

(Ephesians 5:8a) For you were once darkness...

The _____ of our Light

(Ephesians 5:8–9) For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light {9} (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

_____ is the Light of Generous Love

(Acts 2:45) Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

_____ is the Light of Integrity and Justice

_____ is the Light of Courageous Honesty

Why the _____ is the light, not just Individuals

(Matthew 5:14–15) "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. {15} 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.

The Light That Cannot Be _____

The Lamp belongs on a _____

We are _____ to let our Light shine

(Matthew 5:16) In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Our light shines to _____ the Father

Our Light must _____ the darkness, not give in to it

(John 1:4–5) In him was life, and that life was the light of men. {5} The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

(Ephesians 5:11) Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

Our Fellowship is walking in the Light _____

(1 John 1:7) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

The Danger of Darkness _____

(1 John 1:6) If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

The Gift of _____ Light

For the Church to shine, we must _____ together

We must Hold Fast _____

(Hebrews 10:23) Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

(Hebrews 10:24–25) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. {25} Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Danger of Drifting _____

The _____ is a Light in the Darkness

(Matthew 5:14) “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

(Matthew 5:16) In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

We are a _____

The Light of the _____ Church

(Acts 2:42) They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

(Acts 2:47) ...praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

What a shining _____ looks like

The _____ of Every Believer

I am saved and _____ are saved

Getting _____

1. Shine through Holiness.

(1 Thessalonians 5:5) You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

2. Shine through Love.

(John 13:35) By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

3. Shine through Witness.

(1 Peter 3:15) But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

4. Shine through Suffering.

(Philippians 2:14–16) Do everything without complaining or arguing, {15} so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe {16} as you hold out the word of life—in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

5. Shine through Prayer and the Spirit.

(Colossians 4:2–3) Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. {3} And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

A Call to _____

Let's shine _____

So _____ and Shine

(Isaiah 60:1) “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.