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Kings Norton Baptist Church

Sunday 9th February 2025 10 am

Are you a Hi-Viz Christian? **Let your light shine before men**

Opening Scripture

Hymn MP 328 Immortal invisible God only wise

Scripture Isaiah 61 (page 748)

Prayer

Children's talk Hi Vis compared to dark on dark

Chorus MP 319 I would rather have Jesus

Notices Bible study afterwards,
Thursday time to pray, 5pm Evening Service.

Prayer

Lord's prayer - offertory box home - pray reference to giving in the service

Reading Matthew 5:13-16 (page)

Hymn MP 94 Come let us sing of a wonderful love

Sermon *Are you a Hi-Viz Christian?*

Hymn MP 445 Lord the light of your love (Shine J Shine)

Closing prayer CH 896

Prayer

■ Are you a hi-vis Christian? Can people see you? Or do you go about in camouflage khakis trying your best to blend into the background?

Christ Jesus stood out. He brought - and now brings through the Christian - the light of God into this dark world. He set up the candlestick of His Church that the whole house of the world might be lit, that those in the dark may see.

Jesus said to his disciples: **"You are the light of the world - let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."**

A Christian is a man or woman once by nature darkened and alienated from the life of God. But then suddenly there's a divine work, - a divine work wrought by the Spirit of God in the heart of that man or woman.

As in creation so in re-creation. The Word of God who said: **"Let there be light"** and there was light **made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.** The Living word, the Author of life enters the heart bringing light, the light of life.

⇒ This light that has shone into the heart – is now to shine from the heart.

"You were once darkness"—not only in the dark, but darkness! **"But now you are light in the Lord"**.

This lighting up is a separating work. When this Light of God comes, it separates a man from those around him who are still darkness. He is not taken away from his surroundings - but stands out in his surroundings.

This separating work is seen in the first part of Jesus' sermon where he laid out the character of the man or woman who will enter the kingdom of Heaven. Only this new person can enter, those poor in heart and those who grieve and mourn over their poverty. Those who cry out for the Lord's righteousness having none of their own. This character is profoundly different from how any person is naturally. It's a supernatural work of God.

⇒ This is the modern day miracle. x2 It is not of you, it is of Christ. x2

This is not you trying to renew yourself, no, the change is the Lord's doing. This is what the Christian is, now the Christian should show this to others.

Has the Lord made you different? Or are you fundamentally still the same?

The one for whom Christ died is a changed person. He or she, now free from sin and clothed in Christ's righteousness, is acceptable God. That person is now being remade in the image of God.

No longer broken, separated and dead, - but at peace with God and alive.

This happens when Jesus's Spirit comes to you bringing enlightenment, conviction and conversion. The question is, have you been lit? Have you received that divine Light of God? Have you felt the touch of Jesus the heavenly torch in whom the Light has come to you - and now dwells within you? If so, you are now a light bearer remade to shine for the Glory of God.

Jesus now calls us ¹³ **"the salt of the earth."** Salt is fundamentally different from the medium in which it is placed. It has its effect by being different. It is our difference - that makes a difference.

The Christian is not only to be different, he is to glory in this difference. He is to be as different from other people as the Lord Jesus Christ was clearly different from the world in which He lived. The Christian is a separate, unique kind of individual; there is to be in him something which marks him out, and which is to be obvious and clearly recognized. Are you like that?

Individually - Note Christians are salt – it is not the church as a body that is salt. We are not to primarily function as a group or as a political force. No, we are called as individuals to be salt. This is how the Lord maximises our effect among the people.

- In Richard Baxter's day at Kidderminster not only were the people of the Church revived, but many from the world outside were converted and came into the Church. Furthermore, the morals of that whole town were affected, and evil and sin and vice were controlled. This happened not by the Church denouncing these things, not by the Church persuading the Government to pass Acts of Parliament, but by the sheer influence of Christian individuals.
- So too with the great awakening and revival, Wesley and Whitfield worked as individuals throughout the land.

So it should be with you and I. When a Christian enters a room people are immediately controlled in their language and their general conversation because we have arrived.

If that doesn't happen it is because we, the salt, have lost our saltiness. That is why we are told to **Have salt in yourselves**, ^{Mr 9:50}

The world needs salt because sin has entered God's good world. The presence of evil has polluted everything. The world is fallen, sinful and bad. Its tendency is towards evil and wars. More and more we see this. Children, even young children are knifing other children. Law-breaking is rampant. Dishonesty, unfaithfulness and greed blight our land. Without the effect of salt nothing will hinder our tendency to rottenness and to foulness.

More laws won't make us good. We are like meat which cannot but putrefy. It can only be kept wholesome by means of a preservative or antiseptic. Nothing will help Britain save the presence of individual Christians to control the slide to putrefaction and evil.

So where is the salt? x2. The world needs salting - and only Christians are salt, we must spread out, permeate, mix in and integrate with those around.

If the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything. It is very difficult to know what to do with it; It has no function or value at all, and the only thing to do is to get rid of it.

Salt is to be salty. It is useless once it loses this essential quality and purpose for which it has been made. If you have no saltiness in you then you will be no different from anyone else – and therefore there will be no good effect you can have for the Lord. **If you have no salt - you will have no light either.**

Light

"You", said our Lord, looking out at his simple disciples, ¹⁴ **"You are the light of the world.** what a remarkable and glorious thing it is to be a Christian. **We are salt and we are also light.**

Knowing Jesus who is Himself **"the light of the world"** has made me "light". **"For you were once darkness, but now are you light in the Lord"**. Having received light I am made light and therefore I must transmit that light.

⇒ **The world needs salt, but the world in its state of darkness needs light.**

Note we are **the salt of the earth** and also **the light of the world**. Different words are used, salt hinders our evil fleshly earthly nature. But the 'world' is 'kosmos' the worldly mindset. Light confronts the darkness of man's

mind. The world is always talking about its enlightenment. But in spite of our great knowledge, we fail to know what to do with our knowledge.

Our Lord not only pronounces that the world is in a state of darkness, He goes so far as to say that nobody but a Christian can help. That is our claim as Christian people and baffling to the great philosophers of this world.

The ordinary Christian, every true Christian - not certain Christians only - though he may never have read any philosophy at all, knows and understands more about life than the greatest expert who is not a Christian.

A Christian understands that the essential cause behind every trouble is man's estrangement from God. Man has been so made by God that he cannot truly live unless he is in the right relationship to God. We are made like that, **made by God and made for God**. And God has put certain rules in our nature that unless we conform to them, we are bound to go wrong. Every difficulty in the world today can be traced back, in the last analysis to the fall, to sin, to selfishness and self-seeking. All the quarrels and disputes, all the jealousy, envy and malice etc. come back to that and nothing else.

The trouble with man is not his brain but his passions and his lusts. That is the dominating factor. Education will avail nothing as long as his nature is sinful and fallen and he is a creature of his desires. What man needs is not more knowledge he needs a new nature - **not one that loves darkness and hates the light – but one that will love the light and hate the darkness.**

Jesus Christ the Son of God came from heaven to earth to shine into the darkness, to expose the cause of the darkness, and to make a new and living way out of it. He came to bring men and women lost in darkness back to God and to heaven. He has not only bore the guilt of our terrible sinfulness that's behind every trouble, He offers us a new nature.

Only a Christ-like Christian can point a man in the right direction. Paul tells the Christians at Philippi that they like stars are to shine out in the night sky. Christians are to **'hold forth the word of life'** as lights in the world.

The whole function and purpose of light is to give light. Isn't the Lord stating the obvious when he says a lamp is lit in order that it may give light to all who are in the house. It is a rebuke to a Christian if we should forget this and be anything else. **A light has no other purpose but that it should shine.**

Jesus is saying 'I have made you something that is meant to be like a light, **like a city set upon a hill, like a lamp on a stand.** Are you deliberately concealing it? If you are - it is not only ridiculous and foolish but also sinful - for you are failing to be what the Lord has made you to be.'

Sadly there are those who confess to be Christian, and want to appear as Christians, but are not functioning as Christians. They are salt without savour, light without light, if you can imagine such a thing.

■ **MLJ concludes that: it seems to me ... that there is nothing in God's universe that is so utterly useless as a merely formal Christian.**

If a light does not shine it becomes useless to the Lord, it has no value. To effect those around a Christian must have light - and it must be seen.

Let's have some application – we are to be, we must be - visible

A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. ^{14,15}

a **bowl** or bushel means a dry measure of nearly two gallons. Some say this household corn-measure represents the required chores of domestic life.

But does your 'housework' act as a bushel and hide His Light? All worldly things must be subordinated to the Glory of God. Are the cares of home smothering concern for the Kingdom of Christ? Have your possessions, comforts and cares become a bushel of indifference? Do you look well after your house, but for the House of the Lord, have little concern?

The first thing in a Christian is his Christianity. The chief business of one whom God has called is that we should live as the elect of God. Jesus was a carpenter, but we don't see him as a carpenter but as the Saviour and suffering Servant. A Christian policeman is a Christian first and a policeman second. A Christian housewife is a Christian first and housewife second. **The most conspicuous thing about you must be that you are a Christian!** As we live out our Christianity - we bring light to men - and Glory to God.

The true Christian does not want to hide his or her light. He sees how ridiculous it is to claim to be a Christian and yet deliberately hide the fact. A man who truly realizes what it means to be a Christian realizes that the grace of God that has come to him - is ultimately there to influence others.

Spurgeon speaking of being salt and light says: "let him labour to have an illuminating influence, which covers a far larger area and deals more with real life—for salt is for dead flesh and light for living men."

16 **let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.**" Mt 5:16

Salt needs to integrate, that is get rubbed in, and light needs to permeate that means shine over. To be effective we must engage with those around. We need to be out and about. The Christian is not someone who lives in isolation. The church is not a secret society, we are to be seen, to be visible.

■ **God is in the advertising business.**

We are described as **Oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord** and why? **for the display of his splendour** Is 61:3c Like a **shop display** a Christian is put by Christ in this world to be a living display of his Glory to the whole world

The Lord spreads his people out for maximum effect. I know we don't like that, but the Lord's desire is to spread you out. **Like those stars in the sky, they are not all in one place but spread out across the night sky.**

On the motorway salt is not put in a box but spread across all the lanes.

■ **Nor do you put salt on the side of your plate you spread it over the food for maximum effect. So with cooking, do you not stir the salt in?**

A Christian though he is not of the world - is in the world. We are saved out of the world – only to be sent back into the world John 17. We bear a relationship to the world around. The Christian is to be '*otherworldly*' in his mind and outlook; but that never means that he retires out of the world. That was the whole error of monasticism which taught that living the Christian life meant separating oneself from society and living a life of contemplation.

If I ask you 'should Christians live in monasteries' you would all say 'Oh no of course not'. But do you stay in the monastery of your home all week?

You cannot linger and lounge at home and still be salt and light. This is to be disobedient to what the Lord has called you to be. Go out and be seen, be visible, engage with those around. visit someone, this is to act out what the Lord had called you for - and wants from you.

Teresa is joining an arts club at the MAC. Why? So as to make some non-Christian friends. She wants to be visible and effective for the Lord.

Are you out mixing with people? Not to do this is contrary to your calling.

Where has the Lord placed you? The Lord has placed you here. Will you make the most of being here? Sunday is lamp brightening day. When you leave you are to go out and shine brightly, to be an influence on others.

■ **Don't smother the light. Like a bonfire sometimes there so much grass you find the fire has gone out, there is no longer any fire there.**

How can I make sure of that fire. The answer is in the previous verses, 3-10 what is known as the Beatitudes. I must remind myself daily that I am to be poor in spirit, I am to be merciful, to be meek, a peacemaker, pure in heart, and so on. There is nothing that is better calculated to keep the wick in order and trimmed than just to remind myself of what I am by the grace of God, and of what I am meant to be. In everything I do and say, I am to be like that man I see in the Beatitudes. He is different – that is why he is persecuted!

To live this way means to avoid everything that is opposed to this character, in other words to be entirely unlike the world.

It is tragic that a Christian should avoid being different. Some to save themselves from ridicule put on the **camouflage jacket** so as to blend in. But this is again a contradiction in terms. There is no mean between light and darkness; they are opposites of each other. You are either one or the other, they are distinct and there can be no communion between them.

Do your neighbours, work colleagues see you as different from others? or really much the same? The Christian is not to be like the world, we should concentrate on being as different as we can to it.

I do not mean stand out by being peculiar in appearance, or in mannerisms.

Jay Adams a pastor's pastor said: Nothing should need to be said of the importance of maintaining an unoffending bodily and physical appearance. Yet there are ministers who reek of B.O.; others have such foul breath that one could not speak with them for five minutes straight. Some look so shoddy or unkempt most of the time that members of the congregation are ashamed to introduce them to a friend.

That applies to every Christian. Do not stand out because of your clothes, but because of your godliness. By being humble, peaceable, peacemaking in all our talk and behaviour, and especially in our reactions to the behaviour of others. How different you will be to those around.

The more Godly the person, the more obviously this will take place. Without a word, just by being what you are made to be in Christ, others will feel ashamed of what they are doing. In that way you are truly functioning as light. You are providing a standard, you are showing that there is another kind of life which is possible for those around to live.

Candles shed their light not in one direction only, but shine in all directions.

■ The West Hills golf range; its powerful lights light up the whole hill

■ A lantern was lit in church towers to guide at night. A beacon, a guide and a comfort in the darkness as we walk home towards it.

A Christian should be an "all-around man or woman," blessing all who come within range. A light is to shine, and shine brightly. **Are you a Hi-Viz Christian? hen let your light shine before men.** Will you, brothers and sisters exert a holy influence upon others because the Grace of God is really in you? The natural result of a renewed heart is a renewed life - and the natural result of a renewed life is that men see it. It is to the glory God. Amen.
END

金斯諾頓浸信會

2025年2月9日星期日上午10點

您是 Hi-Viz 基督徒嗎？讓你的光芒在人們面前閃耀

開篇經文

聖詩 MP 328 不朽的看不見的上帝只有智慧

經文 以賽亞書 61 章 (第 748 頁)

禱告

兒童談話高能見度與深色對比

合唱 MP 319 我寧願有耶穌

注意到之後的查經，

週四為禱告時間，下午 5 點為晚間禮拜。

禱告

主禱文 - 奉獻箱首頁 - 禱告中提到奉獻

讀馬太福音 5:13-16 (第 13-16 頁)

聖詩 MP 94 來吧，讓我們唱出美好的愛情

講道 您是高能見度基督徒嗎？

聖詩 MP 445 主啊，祢的愛之光 (Shine J Shine)

結束禱告 CH 896

禱告

您是一位高能見度的基督徒嗎？別人看得到你嗎？還是您穿著迷彩卡其褲盡力融入背景？

基督耶穌脫穎而出。他將上帝的光芒帶入了這個黑暗的世界，而現在，他又透過基督教將上帝的光芒帶入了這個黑暗的世界。他設立了教堂的燭台，以便照亮整個世界，讓那些處於黑暗中的人能夠看見。

耶穌對他的門徒說：“你們是世上的光，你們的光照在人前，叫他們看見你們的好行為，便將榮耀歸給你們在天上的父。”

基督徒是曾經天性愚昧、與上帝的生活疏遠的男人或女人。但是，突然出現了神聖的工作——上帝的精神在那個男人或女人的心中創造了神聖的工作。

創造如是，再創造亦然。上帝的話語說：“要有光”，於是就有了光，他的光照進我們心裡，讓我們知道基督面上上帝榮耀的知識之光。活著的話語、生命的創始者進入心靈，帶來光明，生命之光。

□ 這道光芒照進心靈，現在要從心靈深處散發出來。

「你們從前是黑暗」——不只是在黑暗裡，而是在黑暗裡！「但如今你們在主裡面是光明的」。

這點亮是一種分開的工作。當上帝之光到來時，它將人與周圍仍處於黑暗之中的人分開。他並沒有被帶離他的周圍環境——而是在周圍環境中顯得格外突出。

這種分離工作體現在耶穌講道的第一部分，他在那裡闡述了進入天國的男人和女人的性格。只有這個新人才能進入，那些內心貧窮的人和那些因貧窮而悲傷和哀悼的人。那些呼求主的公義的人，卻一無所有。這個角色與任何人的自然性格都有著截然不同的差異。這是上帝的超自然行為。

□ 這是現代奇蹟。x2 這不是你的，而是基督的。x2

這不是你試圖更新自己，不，改變是主所做的。這就是基督徒，現在基督徒應該向其他人展示這一點。

主是否使你變得不一樣了？還是說你本質上還是一樣？

基督為之而死的人已經改變了。他或她現在已經擺脫了罪孽並披戴基督的正義，是可接受的上帝。這個人現在正按照上帝的形像被重塑。

不再破碎，分離和死亡，而是與上帝和平相處並活著。

當耶穌的精神帶給你啟蒙、信念和轉變時，就會發生這種情況。問題是，你被點燃了嗎？您是否已領受上帝神聖的光芒？你是否感受到耶穌的觸摸？如果是這樣，那麼你現在就是一個光明使者，為了上帝的榮耀而發光。

耶穌現在稱我們 13

為「世上的鹽」。鹽與其所處的介質有著根本的不同。它因與眾不同而產生效果。正是我們的不同，才造成了差異。

基督徒不僅要與眾不同，而且要為這種與眾不同而感到自豪。他與其他人截然不同，正如主耶穌基督與他所生活的世界截然不同。基督徒是一個獨立的、獨特的個體；他身上必定有某種特徵，使他與眾不同，而且這種特徵是顯而易見、可以清楚辨識的。你也是這樣嗎？

就個人而言——請注意，基督徒是鹽——

教會作為一個整體並不是鹽。我們的主要職能並不是作為一個團體或政治力量。不，我們作為個體被稱為鹽。這就是主如何在人群中最大限度地發揮我們的影響力。

在理查德·巴克斯特在基德明斯特的時代，不僅教會的人們復興了，而且許多來自外界的人也皈依了教會並加入了教會。此外，整個城鎮的道德都受到了影響，邪惡、罪惡和惡習都得到了控制。這不是因為教會譴責這些事情，也不是因為教會說服政府通過議會法案，而是純粹由於基督徒的影響力。

同樣，在偉大的覺醒和復興運動中，衛斯理和懷特菲爾德也以個人身分在全國各地工作。

你我也應該如此。

如果這沒有發生，那是因為我們作為鹽已經失去了鹹味。這就是為什麼我們被告知要有鹽，先生 9:50 世界需要鹽，因為罪惡已經進入了上帝美好的世界。邪惡的存在污染了一切。世界是墮落的、罪惡的、邪惡的。它的傾向是邪惡和戰爭。我們越來越多地看到這種情況。孩子們，甚至是年幼的孩子都在用刀刺傷其他孩子。違法行為猖獗。不誠實、不忠誠和貪婪毀壞了我們的土地。如果沒有鹽的作用，就沒有什麼能夠阻止我們走向腐爛和惡臭的趨勢。

更多的法律並不會讓我們變得更好。我們就像肉一樣，必然會腐爛。只有使用防腐劑或消毒劑才能保持其完整性。沒有任何事物能夠幫助英國拯救個體基督徒的存在，以控制其走向腐敗和邪惡。

那麼鹽在哪裡？x2。這個世界需要鹽——

只有基督徒是鹽，我們必須散播、滲透、融入、與周遭的人融合。

如果鹽失去了鹹味，怎麼才能讓它再次變鹹呢？它已經沒有任何用處了。很難知道該如何處理它；它根本沒有任何功能和價值，唯一能做的就是丟掉它。

鹽就是要鹹。一旦失去了製造它的本質品質和目的，它就變得毫無用處了。如果你心裡沒有鹹味，那麼你就與別人沒有什麼不同——因此，你也不會對主產生任何好的影響。如果你沒有鹽，你也不會有光。

光

“你們”，我們的主望著他樸實的門徒說道，14“你們是世界的光。成為一名基督徒是多麼了不起和光榮的事。我們是鹽，我們也是光。

認識耶穌本身就是“世界的光”，使我變得“光明”。

「因為你們從前是暗昧的，但如今在主裡面是光明的」。接受了光之後，我便變成了光，因此，我必須傳遞那光。

□ 世界需要鹽，但黑暗的世界需要光。

請注意，我們是世上的鹽，也是世上的光。用不同的字眼來說，鹽阻礙了我們邪惡的肉體塵世本性。但是‘世界’是‘kosmos’，是世俗的心態。光明與人類心靈的黑暗相對抗。世人總是在談論它的啟蒙。然而，儘管我們擁有豐富的知識，我們卻不知道如何運用這些知識。

我們的主不僅宣布世界處於黑暗狀態，他甚至說除了基督徒之外沒有人可以幫助。這是我們身為基督徒的主張，卻讓世上的偉大哲學家們感到困惑。

普通的基督徒，每個真正的基督徒——不只是某些基督徒——

儘管他可能從來沒有讀過任何哲學，但他對生活的了解和理解比最偉大的非基督徒專家更多。

基督徒明白一切煩惱的根本原因是人類與上帝的疏離。人類是上帝所創造的，除非人與上帝建立正確的關係，否則人就無法真正地生活。我們就是這樣被造的，由上帝造出，也為上帝而造。上帝在我們的本性中設定了某些規則，除非我們遵守這些規則，否則我們注定會犯錯。

當今世界上的每一個困難，歸根究底都可以歸結為墮落、罪惡、自私和自利。所有的爭吵和爭議、所有的嫉妒、羨慕和怨恨等等都歸結於此，僅此而已。

人類的問題不在於他的大腦而在於他的激情和慾望。這是主導因素。只要他的本性是有罪的、墮落的、他是一個按自己的慾望行事的生物，教育就毫無用處。人類需要的不是更多的知識，而是需要一種新的天性——不是熱愛黑暗、憎恨光明的天性，而是熱愛光明、憎恨黑暗的天性。

上帝之子耶穌基督從天堂來到人間，照亮黑暗，揭露黑暗的根源，並從中開闢一條新的、活生生的道路。他來是要把迷失在黑暗中的男人和女人帶回上帝和天堂。祂不僅承擔了我們每一個麻煩背後的可怕罪孽，祂也給了我們一種新的本性。

只有像基督的基督徒才能指引一個人走向正確的方向。保羅告訴腓立比的基督徒，他們就像星星一樣在夜空中閃耀。基督徒要“宣揚生命之道”，作為世間的光明。

光的全部功能和目的就是發光。當主說點亮一盞燈是為了照亮房子裡的所有人時，這不是很明顯嗎？如果我們忘記這一點，而去做別的事，這對基督徒來說是一種譴責。燈沒有其他用途，唯一的目的就是發光。

耶穌說『我已將你造得像一盞燈，像一座山上的城，像一盞燈柱。你是故意隱瞞嗎？如果你真是這樣——這不僅是荒謬和愚蠢的，而且是有罪的——因為你沒有成為上帝希望你成為的人。

可悲的是，有些人承認自己是基督徒，並想表現得像基督徒，但卻沒有盡到基督徒應盡的責任。它們是沒有味道的鹽，沒有光的光，如果你能想像這樣的事情的話。

MLJ 的結論是：在我看來...上帝的宇宙中沒有什麼比僅僅形式上的基督徒更無用的了。

如果光不發光，它對主來說就毫無用處，沒有任何價值。為了影響周圍的人，基督徒必須有光明——而且必須被看見。

讓我們來談談應用——我們應該、我們必須——可見

山上的城市是無法隱藏的。人們也不會點燈然後把它放在碗底下。相反，他們把它放在支架上，它就為房子裡的每個人提供光明。 14,15

一碗或一蒲式耳意味著大約兩加侖的乾量。有人說，這種家用玉米計量器代表了家庭生活中必要的家務事。

但你的『家事』是否像鬥一樣遮住了他的光芒？世間一切事物都必須順服上帝的榮耀。家庭的憂慮是否抑制了對基督王國的關心？您的財產、舒適和關心是否已變得無足輕重？你是否很好地照顧了自己的房子，卻對上帝的房子毫不關心？

一個基督徒的第一件事就是他的基督教信仰。被上帝召喚的人的首要任務就是作為上帝的選民來生活。耶穌是木匠，但我們不是視祂為木匠，而是視祂為救世主和受苦的僕人。一名基督徒警察首先是基督徒，其次才是警察。一名基督教家庭主婦首先是一名基督徒，其次才是家庭主婦。你最引人注目的一點肯定是你是基督徒！當我們實踐基督教信仰時，我們為人類帶來光明，為上帝帶來榮耀。

真正的基督徒並不想隱藏自己的光芒。他發現自稱是基督徒卻故意隱瞞事實是多麼荒謬。一個真正認識到基督徒意義的人會意識到上帝賜給他的恩典最終是為了影響他人。

司布真在談到做鹽和光時說：“讓他努力發揮啟發性的影響，這種影響覆蓋的範圍更大，更多地涉及現實生活——因為鹽是為死肉而光是為活人而生的。”

16你們的光也當這樣照在人前，叫他們看見你們的好行為，便將榮耀歸給你們在天上的父。太 5:16

鹽需要融入，即被揉搓，而光需要滲透，即照耀。為了提高有效性，我們必須與周圍的人互動。我們需要出去走走。基督徒並不是一個活在孤立中的人。教會不是一個秘密社團，我們應該被看見、被關注。

上帝從事廣告業。

我們被描述為正義的橡樹，是上帝種植的，為什麼呢？為要彰顯祂的榮耀以賽亞書 61:3c

就像商店陳列品一樣，基督徒被基督放在這個世界上，向全世界生動地展示祂的榮耀

上帝將祂的子民分散開來，以達到最大的效果。我知道我們不喜歡這樣，但是主的願望是讓你們分散開來。就像天上的星星一樣，它們並沒有聚集在一個地方，而是分散在整個夜空中。

在高速公路上，鹽不是放在箱子裡，而是撒在所有的車道上。

您也不要將鹽放在盤子的一側，而是將其均勻地撒在食物上，以達到最佳效果。那麼煮飯的時候，你
不加鹽攪拌嗎？

基督徒雖然不屬於這個世界 -

但他仍活在這個世界。我們被拯救脫離了這個世界——只是為了被送回這個世界（約翰福音 17

章）。基督徒在思想和觀點上應該是「超凡脫俗的」；但這並不意味著他會退出江湖。這就是修道主義的全部錯誤，它教導說，過基督徒的生活意味著脫離社會，過著沉思的生活。

如果我問你「基督徒應該住在修道院嗎？」你都會說「哦，不，當然不應該」。但你整個星期都待在你家的修道院裡嗎？

你不能逗留閒逛在家裡同時還做鹽和光。這就是不順服主對你的召喚。走出去，讓別人看到你，引起別人注意，與周圍的人互動。拜訪某人，這是為了表現出主對你的召喚和對你的期望。

特蕾莎正在加入 MAC

的一個藝術俱樂部。為什麼？從而結交一些非基督徒朋友。她希望能為上帝做出貢獻。

你在外面和別人混在一起嗎？不這樣做就違背了你的使命。

主把你安置在何處？上帝把你安置在這裡。您會充分利用在這裡的時間嗎？星期日是點燈日。當你離開時，你要走出去，散發光芒，對其他人產生影響。

不要遮擋光線。就像篝火一樣，有時草太多了，你會發現火已經熄滅了，那裡不再有火。

我怎樣才能確保那場火？答案就在前面的經文中，即第 3 至 10

節，即所謂的登山寶訓。我必須每天提醒自己，要心靈貧乏、要仁慈、要溫柔、要和平、要心地純潔等等。沒有什麼比提醒自己上帝賜給我什麼樣子、我注定要成為什麼樣子更能讓我保持井然有序和整潔的了。我所做的每一句話，我都應該像我在登山寶訓中看到的那個人一樣。他與眾不同——這就是他遭受迫害的原因！

這樣的生活意味著要避開一切與這個性格相反的事物，換句話說，就是要與這個世界完全不同。

一名基督徒避免與眾不同是可悲的。有些人為了避免被嘲笑，會穿上迷彩服，以便融入其中。光明與黑暗之間沒有中庸；它們是互相對立的。你要么是其中之一，要么是另一個，他們是不同的，他們之間不可能有任何交流。

您的鄰居、同事是否認為您與他人不同？或者說真的大致相同？基督徒不應該與世界一樣，我們應該集中精力盡可能地與世界有所不同。

我並不是說要透過外表或行為舉止的奇特來脫穎而出。

牧師傑伊亞當斯 (Jay Adams)

曾說：保持不冒犯他人的身體和外表的重要性不言而喻。但有些牧師渾身散發著體臭；有些人的口臭非常嚴重，以致人們連續五分鐘都無法與他們交談。有些人大多時候都顯得邋邋或蓬頭垢面，以致教友們羞於把他們介紹給朋友。

這適用於每個基督徒。不要因你的衣著而引人注目，而要因你的虔誠而引人注目。在我們的一切言行中，尤其是在對他人行為的反應中，保持謙遜、平和、建構和平。你和周圍的人將會有多麼不同。

人越虔誠，這種情況發生得越明顯。無需多言，只要成為基督裡的人，其他人就會為他們所做的事情感到羞恥。這樣，你就真正發揮了光的作用。你正在提供一個標準，你正在向周圍的人展示還有另一種可能的生活。

蠟燭的光芒不只照向一個方向，而是照向所有方向。

Wast Hills 高爾夫球場；其強烈的燈光照亮了整座山

教堂塔上點亮了一盞燈籠，以便在夜間指引方向。當我們走向回家的路上，它是一盞明燈、一個嚮導、一種在黑暗中給予我們的安慰。

基督徒應該是一個“全能的男人或女人”，祝福所有在其範圍內的人。光就是要照耀，而且要明亮地照耀。您是 Hi-Viz

基督徒嗎？讓你的光芒在人們面前閃耀。兄弟姐妹們，由於上帝的恩典確實存在於你們心中，你們會為別人帶來神聖的影響嗎？心靈更新的自然結果是生命的更新，而生命的更新的自然結果是人們看到它。這是為了榮耀上帝。阿門。結尾