

**Agape House of Worship
Midweek Service & Bible Study**

General Topic: The Importance of Light
Title - “Shine Your Light, Make a Difference”
Key Scripture: Matthew 5:16

Date: May 15, 2024
Facilitator: Pastor Kip Wright

Matthew 5:16 NIV ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 CEV ¹⁶ Make your light shine, so others will see the good you do and will praise your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 EASY ¹⁶ You must be sure that your light shines well. Then you will give light to other people. They will see all the good things that you do. Then they will praise God, who is your Father in heaven.’

What does light represent in the Bible?

Three things the Bible says about light

1. Light separates/divides/distinguishes

Genesis 1:3-4 NIV ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

2. God uses light to define days, seasons, and years

Genesis 1:5 NIV ⁵ God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Genesis 1:14 New Living Translation ¹⁴ Then God said, “Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years.”

3. Light governs/rules

Genesis 1:16 NIV ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

Jesus is the light of the world – John 9:5, John 1:9-10, John 3:19, John 12:46

John 8:12 NIV ¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Jesus separates – How does Jesus separate/divide/distinguish?

- **John 15:19 NKJV** ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

Jesus defines – Example - Disciple

- **Matthew 16:24 New International Version** ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- **Luke 14:33 New King James Version** ³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.
- **John 13:34-35 NIV** ³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Jesus governs – How does Jesus govern/rule/judge?

- **Isaiah 9:6 NIV** ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

We are the light of the world – Matthew 5:16

Matthew 5:14 Amplified Bible ¹⁴ “You are the light of [Christ to] the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;

Ephesians 5:8-9 NIV ⁸ 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)

Philippians 2:15 Easy-to-Read Version ¹⁵ so that you will be blameless and pure, children of God without any fault. But you are living with evil people all around you, who have lost their sense of what is right. Among those people you shine like lights in a dark world,

As Christians in today’s world - How do we use our light to separate, define, and govern?

Separate/divide/distinguish -

Define –

Govern -
