**Devotion**

Pleasant View Baptist Church ● Scripture: Matthew 5:14-16

*14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. 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. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

**Be a light to the world**

This passage comes from the longest sermon of Jesus Christ that we have on record. The sermon on the mount provides key principles to Christian discipleship. This passage reflects that as well. The first word in verse 14 is “Ye.” At this time, Jesus is talking to the multitudes, his closest followers, and the disciples. This verse applies to all of us Christians because we have been awarded the graces he mentions in the verses prior to this scripture. Furthermore, Jesus states in John 8:12, “I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of light.” If you are saved and born again, you have the light of Jesus in you. That is not an arrogant statement, but it is the truth.

In verse 14 Jesus states, “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.” The Greek word for world is *kosmos*. That word literally means world, universe, worldly affairs, and mankind. As Christians we need to be a light unto the entire world. We need to be a light unto all mankind. This means we need to be a light to both Christians and non-Christians.

We may be the only chance for a non-Christian to see the light of Jesus. That is something we

don’t need to take lightly. We need non-Christians to be able to see Jesus in all aspects of our life. We also need to let our light shine for Christians. So many times an individual has said or done something in my life that has made an impression on my life. I then think about the trials that individual is going through. Yet, they are still able to let the light of Jesus shine bright in their life. As a Christian, it is encouraging to see these types of actions.

In verse 15 Jesus talks about lighting a candle and hiding it under a bushel. Every time I hear this verse I can’t help, but think of the song “This Little Light of Mine.” I think about the lyrics and the hand motions that go with it. As Christians we need to let our light shine bright. We need to let it shine for all of mankind. We don’t need to assume the light of Jesus as a light switch. We need to let the light of Jesus shine bright at all times.

Praying that you will let the light of Jesus shine bright in your life.

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