

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A town built 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. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

This photo of ancient lamps is taken at a museum in Greece. These lamps are the types used during the time of Jesus. It is typically placed on a stand on a wall. There are three applications from these verses that can help us today:

- 1. You are the light of the world. Jesus stated you are the light. John 8:12 states Jesus is the light of the world, and His followers also have the light of life. It is the spiritual light, and it should reflect God's character, such as righteousness, mercy, holiness, patience, etc.*
- 2. Give light to everyone. This world is darkened by sins. We need to give light to the people of this world. A lamp shall not be under a bowl, just as we shall not be hidden. We shall be on a "stand" where all the people can see so that our lights can shine to them.*
- 3. See your good deeds and glorify God. Our lights are not just inward characters such as peace, joy, holiness, etc., but also outward deeds such as having mercy on the needy, exposing the truth, and showing patience and kindness to each other. People can see our good characters and deeds and know that they are from God. Therefore, our actions bring glory to God, our heavenly Father. Please remember that anywhere you go, you are carrying Jesus' light! Let it shine!*

