



Week #2: The Way of Illumination

“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.”

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

We all have multiple lampstands to let our light shine:

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

Sermon in a Sentence: Our good _____ lead to good _____ that opens the door for the good _____.

“...Do good things **for** the city I sent you to. Pray to the Lord **for** the city you are living in, because if there is peace in that city, you will have peace also.”

Jeremiah 29:7 (ERV)

Discussion Questions

1. Do you believe that God has you in your community for a reason? If so, for what reason?
2. Consider your social circles - neighborhood, school, gym, etc. What do you think it means to be salt and light to the world? How have you been salt and light in those social circles?
3. Do your good works cause people to want to know more about God, or you? In what ways can you point people towards Jesus through acts of service?

Recommended Resources

- <https://thewaysofjesus.com/devotionals>
- *B.L.E.S.S.: 5 Every Day Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World*, by Dave Ferguson and John Ferguson
- *Blessed, Broken, Given*, by Glenn Packiam
- *Life of the Beloved*, by Henri Nouwen
- *Flesh: Bringing the Incarnation Down to Earth*, by Hugh Halter
- *Surprise the World*, by Michael Frost

(NIV) New International Version

(ERV) Easy-to-Read Version

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Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

We all have multiple lampstands to let our light shine:

- Story.
- Neighborhood.
- Finances.
- Work / School.
- Church.
- Relationships.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

Sermon in a Sentence: Our good deeds lead to good will that opens the door for the good news.

*“...Do good things **for** the city I sent you to. Pray to the Lord **for** the city you are living in, because if there is peace in that city, you will have peace also.”*

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