

**OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> 2005: BEING THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD: Phil 2:12-18**

**Two weeks ago**.....we began to look.....instruction....for believers to be..salt/light  
Sermon on mount.....lifestyle \*\*\*\*\* **Last week**....process begins by....presenting as..

**TODAY my aim**.....is to take us just a little further.....in our understanding...  
of what Jesus meant when He said in Matt 5:14-16

*You are the light of the world. 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 a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven*

**When Jesus uttered.....Giving all who choose to follow.....**

**First..... A Statement of Fact**

**You are the Light**.....not will be....can be...might be

But You ARE.....and the you is plural--→all believers together are  
(Traffic lights.....lots of LED lights...)

**AND 2nd....A CHALLENGE**

You are the Light.....now go and be obvious about it

*Don't hide who you are.....like a light under a bowl.....Be like a light on a stand  
-→ the end result being.....people will praise.....Your Father in heaven*

**Most of us would admit to liking a challenge**

As long.....Something we can do.....worthwhile.....exciting::::

**THIS challenge.....is all those things....for the believer.**

*(when I was young.....one of the missionariesI .....Grenfell of Labrador.....*

**Book**-→What Christ means to me.....

He tells how he was brought up.....

**While he was a young doctor**.....1883....chanced upon a tent

Old man was praying... ..person near him jumped up

**Let us sing a hymn while our brother finishes his prayer**

**That got Grenfell's attention.....esp .....was the speaker**

**The speaker was Moody.....and thro him that night....Spirit placed a new idea in  
That living one's life wholly for a Living Leader.....was religion**

**That religion was an active life lived out right now  
Not an insurance ticket**

**That such a life was a challenge...→not a dull existence.....lived out on a church pew**

Grenfell's writes:- *The idea of this Living Leader.....who could and did transform  
all who accepted Him, and who in every rank of life everywhere, literally would walk  
with ordinary folk and enable them 'to play the game' and endure as seeing Him who  
is invisible, fascinated me.*

**Is it any wonder that Grenfell took the challenge of being the light....so seriously  
And then took the healing of medicine and the power of the Gospel to.....**

Grenfell wrote towards the end of his life:

*Christ means to me the best kind of a Friend, as well as Leader, who is  
giving me in this world ten, nay a hundred times,  
as good as I could enjoy in any other way.*

**He willingly took up this challenge from His Saviour.....and his life...others....blessed**

**This morning however, its not what the challenge.....meant to him that is important  
But what it means to each one of us.....**

**In our reading...Phil 2:.....Paul put the concept of us being.....A little differently  
He said in 2:14-16.....**

**Aren't the stars in the sky so brilliant .....Easily missed for sure.....always there.**

**You are out in the bush at night.....what do you do???**

**We are to shine like stars**

**The thing about stars.....on a journey.....They have a limited life span  
Yet the light they project.....continues to have an impact.....**

**The stars give direction....show the way....comfort...encouragement.....stability  
Cause us to praise the Creator**

**We too are on a journey.....And as Xtians.....**Journey** of usefulness for our Lord**

*(I was thinking.....how we view service in heaven compared to service on earth  
But supposing this is the A league here-----The major service was what you were  
doing..)*

**One of my brothers Geoff.....works producing films.....  
Before he did that he had a successful editing business.....**

**I have a friend.....similar business.....A Xtian....consumed him**

**Not that we shouldn't aim for earthly goals...honours  
But only as we are prepared first....to be the Light of.....Give major benefit**

**SO HOW DO WE SHINE LIKE THE STARS....how do we do it**

**From Phil 2:12-18 (12-13) Hard work is needed.....Listening to God at work w/in**

**Then in v14-15.....put a boycott on complaining and arguing as we seek.....  
(*Too often Xtian group name for bickering....*)**

**and in v16.....always holding out the word of life**

**BUT AS WELL➔.....TO SHINE BRIGHTLY.....MUST SEEK TO BECOME**

**PEOPLE WHO ARE ACTIVE IN LOVE**

**Look again at Matt 5:16....**

these good deeds.....arise out of loving God and....

They are not motivated by selfish ends.....for the end is that.....

**PEOPLE WHO ARE COURAGEOUS CHRISTIANS**

Again Grenfell writes.....p36.....

Paul speaking to Timothy says.....2 Tim 1:7           and   2 Tim 4:5

**PEOPLE WHO PRAY AND ARE KNOWN TO PRAY**

This is so vital.....AS these young people are preparing.....Prayer partners

**But along with praying for God's enabling.....**I believe we should be known as...pray  
*(Talking about this with Over 55's.....If a doctor is present.....auto available  
and auto recognized.....as one who will*

As Christians who shine.....we should be known as those who will pray

*(Recently I made a phone call to a friend.....having some business troubles..tell him  
I'm praying for him.....I want to be known as one who believes in prayer and)*

**So to sum up**           **IF you are a follower.....then you are the Light**  
**& the challenge.....you to shine.....obvious way...most obvious place...like star**

**To do that hard work is needed**  
**Avoid complaining & having a go at....So know God's message**

**Esp**           **You will shine.....show forth love through your deeds**  
**Courage in your stand for Jesus**

**And not only be one who prays.....but one who is known**  
**As a person who delights to offer sincere prayer....on behalf of others**

