



Let Your Light Shine

Discussion Guide

When we choose to follow Jesus, we change. Our desires, our focus, and our purposes all take a drastic turn...and the world should notice this! We often try to blend in as Christians. We try to avoid appearing radical or even just different from others around us. We almost have the mindset of trying to win people over to Christ by being the same as they are. However, biblically, we are called to stand out and let our lights shine. This week, we take a deeper look at sharing our faith and standing out in our everyday lives.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God's truth and apply it to our week.

1. Share a time you stood out or looked different? (This can be as simple as over/under dressed or a time you had an opinion that was drastically different from everyone else's.)
2. **Read [Matthew 5:14-16](#)**. Does a light “try” to shine in the darkness? Why is this significant? What should the light Jesus is talking about do? How can you let your light shine more brightly?
3. **Read [Matthew 10:1](#) and [Matthew 28:18-19](#)**. What is the authority Jesus is talking about and how do we receive it? What spiritual gifts did Jesus give the disciples? What is your spiritual gift (if you know it), and how are you using it to make disciples?
4. **Read [Matthew 10:11-13](#)**. What impact does the disciples' presence have on others' homes? Why is their presence so impactful? Do you allow the peace/blessing/hope God has given you to impact others around you?
5. Final Thought: **Read [Mathew 10:14-26](#)**. We fear sharing Jesus. Why? Why does God send the disciples out like sheep among the wolves? What does it look like be wise as serpents and innocent as doves, and how does this prepare us for persecution? What can you do to prepare to face persecution in your own life?

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

This week we discussed authority given to us by Jesus. In Deeper, we will focus specifically on spiritual gifts, what they are, how they work, and their purpose. Much of the content comes straight from "Growth Track," which is our Discipleship Class, which will be coming again in September.

6. **Read [1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#)**. Before we dive into what your spiritual gift is, what do you notice about the wording in this passage? Why is this significant? Why does the Holy Spirit chose to give us gifts at all?

7. **Read [1 Peter 4:10](#), [1 Timothy 4:14](#), & [1 Corinthians 4:2](#)**. What are some of the responsibilities we have when we receive a spiritual gift(s)? How could spiritual gifts be used for the good of others.

8. **Read [1 Corinthians 12:9-10](#), [1 Corinthians 12:28](#), [Romans 12:6-8](#), [Ephesians 4:11-12](#)**. What is a gift(s) that you believe God has given you? Are you using that gift to truly impact others with salvation, growth, and encouragement? How can you start this week?

If you are looking for more information on a specific spiritual gift, a great resource is <https://spiritualgiftstest.com/spiritual-gifts/>. This website breaks down each gift in an easy to understand fashion.