

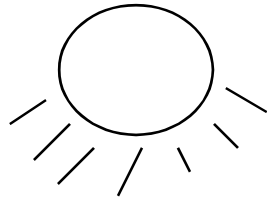
Words for Study and Ideas
to think About

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Letting Our Lights Shine!

We can let our lights shine in many different ways! These include being a good example, helping others, and encouraging others.



What are some ways you can think of to shine your light at home, school, and church?

Home -

School -

Church -

"It is more blessed to Give ,than to receive.",
Acts 20:35

What does this mean to You?

How are we blessed in Giving?

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A Study of Matthew

Matthew 4:12-5:16

Lesson 5

Assignment for next Week — Read Matthew 5:17-7:28

Memory Verse — Matthew 5:16

After Christ tempting we read about how he called his disciples and about many of his miracles. Christ did many wonders and many came to hear his words. Christ spoke to large groups of people on a number of occasions and one of those was the sermon on the mount, which starts in Matthew chapter five. The Chapter begins with, what many call, the beatitudes. Christ in these words emphasizes the importance of many spiritual characteristics. These characteristics the world may not see as Blessings, but we should strive to have them because with them we can have the abundant life that Christ has promised.

Christ emphasized the importance of those who understand their spiritual poverty, those who mourn, those who are gentle, those who desire to feed from God's word, those who are merciful, those who are pure, those who make peace, and those who are persecuted. Only those who have these characteristics can find the full life in Christ. Only when we realize that we cannot buy or earn our righteousness do we come to some appreciation of the Love of God. We must realize that we are spiritually poor, before we can improve, "The Wages of Sin is Death, but the Gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ." (Romans 6:23) Therefore, we should be those who hunger for God's word and this hungering should be like that written of by the psalmist in Psalms 1:1-3, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Our desire and love for God should cause us to

seek to study his word and this study will increase our love. Also If we feed from God's word we will be better prepared to face temptation and have a stronger faith.

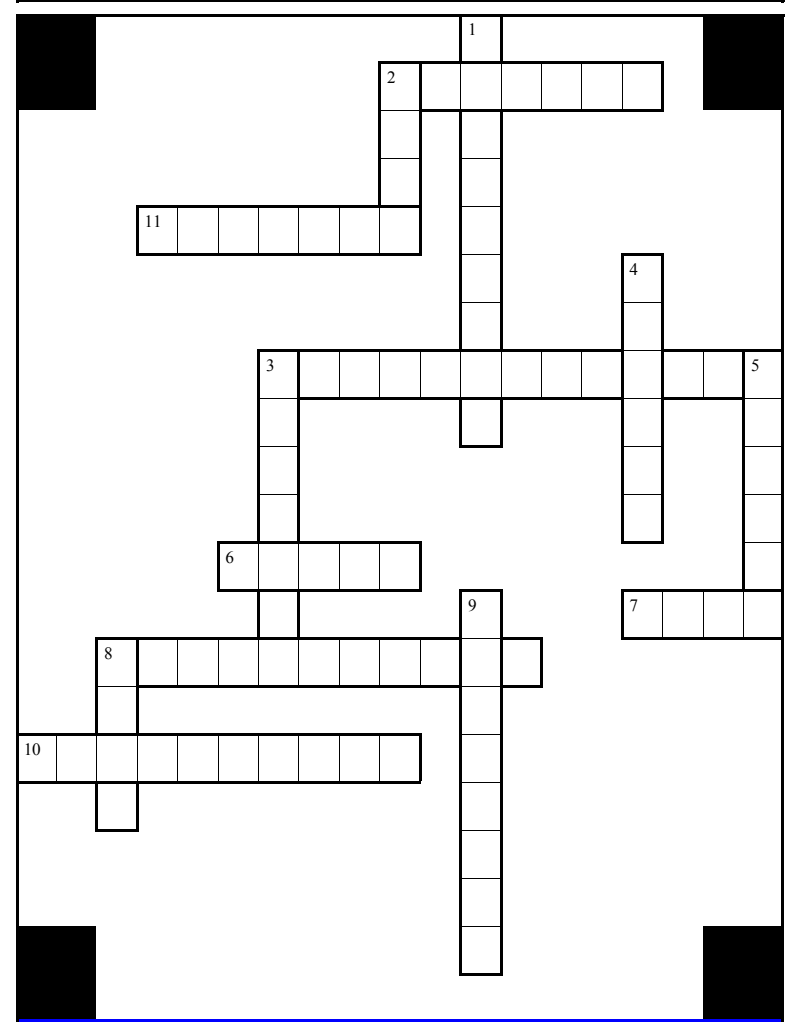
Christ also emphasizes traits of how we deal with our fellow man like being peacemakers and merciful. So much is taught in these few verses. It is so hard for the world to understand how these traits can make one blessed for the world does not usually think of these as blessings. Only those who practice them can have the full understanding of how they provide the abundant life.

Christ also said that we should have joy in persecution. Persecution is only a blessing when we are right. Peter emphasized that fact in I Peter 4:16. The apostles showed the value of persecution when they gloried that they were counted worthy to suffer persecution as we see in Acts 5. We should be glad when we suffer. We should count it all Joy because we know Trials and temptations that are overcome make us more fit for the Kingdom. Our trials will also help us work on our patience, James 1:3. We should expect persecution because Paul said, "All that will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."(II Timothy 3:12).

After stating these beatitudes, Christ then tells why it is important to have these attitudes. Christ tells us that we are the Light of the World and the Salt of the earth. When we think of salt we may only think about how it flavors our food; however, in Christ time salt was a preservative. We are to be a spiritual preservative in the world showing forth God's way to all man kind. We are to be the light of the world showing them the way to Christ. It is so critical that we realize and live this mission. We are told that we should "therefore let . . . [our] . light shine before people that they may see . . . [our] . good deeds and give glory to . . . [our] . heavenly Father.", Matthew 5:16. Our example is so important, how we live and what we say can make a difference.

Have you ever noticed that people are usually willing to follow others. If someone will just stand up people will follow. People will follow others examples for good or bad. We need to seek to be examples for good. The next time we are given the opportunity to stand up for that which is right we should do it and we should continue to do it each and every time we are

W Answer the Questions on Page
38 CROSS to fill in the Puzzle.
R



Cross Word Fun for Learning

Fill in the Missing words of from the Scriptures.

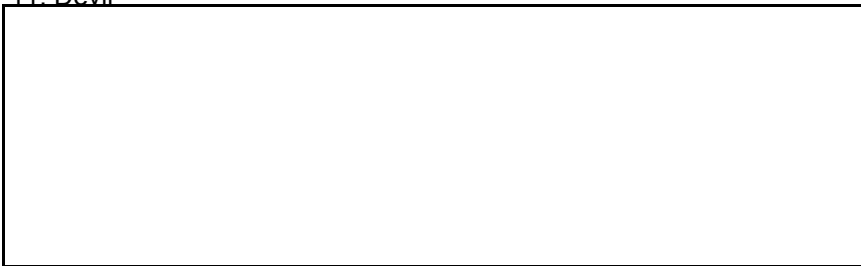
A-Across, D-Down, (Example 4D = #4 Down)

(Matthew 5:3-16) ___11A___ are the poor in ___5D___: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be ___1D___. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do ___4D___ and thirst after ___3A___: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the ___8D___ in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the ___8A___: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are ___10A___ for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. ___3D___, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the ___9D___ which were before you. Ye are the ___7A___ of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the ___6A___ of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 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. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your ___2D___ works, and ___2A___ your Father which is in heaven.

Answers to Lesson 4

Across- 2. Worship, 3. Angels, 4. God, 5. Temple, 6. Bread, 7. Stones, 10. Kingdoms, 12. Tempt

Down - 1. Escape, 2. Wilderness, 8. Written, 9. Satan, 11. Devil



given the opportunity for in so doing we give glory to our heavenly Father and may lead a lost one to Christ.

We each need to seek to be merciful and peaceful. We each need to seek purity of heart and hunger to feed from God's word. And when persecution comes we must not let this discourage us but realize that all those "who will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." We can have the abundant life in Christ and we can find a fulfilling life in Christ. Although the world may not be able to understand this, if we seek the Father's will we can have happiness beyond that which the world can ever have. Let us seek this inner peace that God's has provided for us through his Son.

What does this lesson mean to you?

Questions

1. What kinds of people did the Lord say are blessed?
2. Does this differ from what the World thinks of as blessings?
3. How are we to look upon trials and persecution?
4. What does it mean that we are the Salt of the Earth and the Light of the World?
5. What are we not to do with our light?
6. What does it mean for salt to have lost it's savor?
7. Who is to be glorified in us by doing good works?

Match the Scripture with the Event

8. What is the blessing for each listed below?

Poor in Spirit

Mourn

Meek

Hunger and thirst after Righteousness

Merciful

Pure in Heart

Peacemakers

Persecuted for Righteousness Sake

a. 4:12 b. 4:17 c. 4:18-19 d. 4:24
e. 5:3-4 f. 5:5 g. 5:8-9 h. 5:11-12
i. 5:13-14 j. 5:16

_____ 1. Jesus said that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

_____ 2. Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the Children of God."

_____ 3. Jesus called Peter and Andrew telling them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

_____ 4. Jesus heard that John had been cast into prison.

_____ 5. Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth."

_____ 6. We are told to let our light shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our father that is in heaven.

_____ 7. Jesus said that we are blessed when men curse us and do evil to us for his sake and we should rejoice because great is our reward in heaven.

_____ 8. Jesus fame spread throughout all Syria and many came to be healed by Him.

_____ 9. Jesus taught that the poor in spirit were blessed for theirs is God's Kingdom. And Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.

_____ 10. Jesus began to preach, Repent: for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand.