

The Last Sunday of Epiphany ~ Sunday, February 15, 2026

“Living in the Light: Children of Light”

Ephesians 5:6-14 & Matthew 5:14-20

This morning, as we conclude this series, the movement shifts _____. Not because the inward work is finished—because it never is—but because light, by its very nature, doesn’t remain _____. Light received becomes light shared. Light encountered inevitably becomes light _____.

The Christian life isn’t just about being _____, but also about being _____—not to draw attention to ourselves, but to allow God’s light to shine through lives that are quietly _____ by faith, hope, and love.

It’s not telling us that we’re the _____ of the light. We don’t generate it, manufacture it, or _____ upon it by anything we do or don’t do. Christ alone is the Light of the World. And we’re called to _____ Him.

Our calling is derivative, _____, and deeply relational. We shine because we’ve first been _____.

This matters because a faith that lives in the light is a faith that learns how to dwell in God’s _____ and then carry that presence into relationships, homes, workplaces, churches, and neighbourhoods.

#1. _____.

“You are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5:14)

Jesus speaks _____—He tells them who they are—before He gives a command.

The light they bear isn’t something they _____ through effort or moral strength; it’s something they’ve already _____ by being with Him.

The Christian life isn’t about us trying harder to shine, it’s about _____ shining on us, in us, and through us.

The light we carry is His life at work within us. Any attempt to _____ that—any attempt to treat light as a product of our own effort rather than a gift of _____, can lead to pride, exhaustion, and eventually, _____.

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:8)

Notice Paul’s language here. He isn’t talking about a past and present _____ of _____, but a past and present _____.

He doesn’t say that the Ephesians once _____ in darkness, but that they _____ darkness. Likewise, he doesn’t say they now merely _____ in the light, but that they _____ light in the Lord.

Again, this isn’t self-generated moral improvement or spiritual _____. This is transformation rooted in a _____ relationship with Jesus, who is the source of light because He’s Light of the World.

We’re not asked to produce brilliance. We’re invited to remain _____, and let Christ’s light pass through the ordinary material of our everyday lives into the world around us. When we forget this, faith becomes _____. When we remember it, _____ becomes possible.

This matters because many Christians—and I know I’ve been guilty of this—quietly carry the burden of thinking that letting our light shine means that we must appear bright, _____, and spiritually impressive all the time. And we worry that if our faith feels dim, we’ve _____.

Scripture offers a gentler truth: we’re not called to be _____, we’re called to _____. Light shines best not through perfection, but through honesty, openness, and _____, by being _____ with God, ourselves, and others.

Living as children of light always begins with _____.

It means returning again and again to Word and Sacrament, and to prayer, worship, and community, not as duty or techniques for _____, but as places where Jesus meets us and _____ us.

We bear the light faithfully when we remember where it comes from, and we reflect it best when we stop trying to _____ it.

How do you bear the light in your everyday life?

#2. _____.

“A city 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.” (Matthew 5:14-15)

The point He’s making isn’t that faith should be flashy or _____, but rather _____, real, and visible. Light, by its nature, makes itself known. It doesn’t need to boldly or dramatically _____ itself.

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven,” (Matthew 5:16)

He isn't calling the disciples to _____ righteousness, but to _____ righteously and faithfully where they already are.

This distinction matters deeply because there's a kind of public faith that can be performative, that's concerned with _____, recognition, and approval.

Jesus commends a different kind of faith—a quiet, _____ faith that becomes visible simply because it's lived _____, graciously, and humbly, without pride or _____. When we live out that kind of faith, the glory doesn't land on, or rest on us, but passes through us and returns to God where it _____ belongs.

"Live as children of light." (Ephesians 5:8)

He doesn't instruct them to draw _____ to themselves, but calls them to a way of life marked by goodness, righteousness, and _____. These may not be dramatic virtues, but they are _____ ones. They show up slowly, _____, and often unnoticed—until, over time, they begin to _____ hearts, lives, churches, and communities.

It's living with _____ when it would be easier to cut corners. It's living with _____ when no one is watching. It's living _____ when silence would be more convenient.

Over time, this kind of living—this light—becomes unmistakable—not because it demands attention, but because it offers warmth and _____ in a dark and chaotic world.

Bearing the light doesn't require a platform. It requires _____.

We may not be called to dramatic, public acts of faith; however, we are called to live everyday lives of faith and _____ where ever we find ourselves—lives shaped by prayer, patience, generosity, _____, compassion, grace, and love. It means trusting that God uses the _____ lives of ordinary people, quietly lived, to _____ His presence. The light we bear shines most clearly when it's not _____, exaggerated, or defended, but simply allowed to be seen through lives rooted, grounded, and anchored in _____.

When faith is lived out this way, it becomes an _____ rather than performance or pressure. And God, not the believer, receives the _____.

How are you living out the light in your everyday life?

#3. _____.

Both Jesus and Paul are clear that the light we bear isn't _____, but is made

visible and _____ through the shape of our _____.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks of good works—not as a way of earning God's favour, but as the natural _____ of a life rooted in Him. And in Ephesians, fruit = "...all that is good and right and true." (Ephesians 5:9)

These aren't extraordinary _____ accomplished by super-spiritual Christians, they're ordinary acts of _____, repeated over time, by ordinary people, like you and me.

We sometimes imagine that bearing the light requires _____ gestures or public moments of great courage. However, Scripture points to a quieter, steadier path. The light of Christ is most often carried into the world through daily _____.

"Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them." (Ephesians 5:11)

This exposure doesn't happen primarily through argument, _____, coercion, or condemnation. It happens when lives shaped by Christ reveal a different way of being _____. Light exposes darkness simply by being _____. It shows what's true by living truthfully. It reveals what's good by choosing goodness. It unmasks what's false by walking _____ in the light.

A life shaped by obedience slowly leaves a _____. Patterns of prayer, forgiveness, honesty, and generosity begin to mark a way forward that others can see and eventually _____.

Living as children of light means embracing the significance of small acts of _____. It means trusting that what feels ordinary to us is often the very thing God uses to make His presence _____.

This kind of obedience requires _____. It asks us to believe that God is at work even when we can't see Him, or when the results aren't _____. It calls us to remain faithful not because we can see the outcome, but because we _____ the One who sends us.

Lent doesn't ask us to escape the world, but to engage it more honestly; to walk more _____, and to live more deliberately as people of the light. Bearing the light isn't about drawing _____ to ourselves.

How obediently are you bearing the light in your everyday life?