



**SERIES: November – December – Walking with Jesus**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Tuesday, 11/16/2021**

**Scripture: Matthew 5:14-16**

**TITLE: Shine On**

A couple of weeks ago, I walked into my son's bedroom to find it pitch black. I flipped on the switch but no light. I walked over to his bed to flip the switch on his bedside table lamp, but it wasn't there.

"What the heck?" I said. What is this kid up to? I pulled out my phone and turned on the flashlight. His lamp was nowhere to be found. I opened up the door to his closet and there in the middle of the floor was his lamp. I found him and said, "You know a lamp won't work when it sits in your closet?" He said, "It does when you plug it in when your closet bulb is burned out!"

Touché, son. Touché.

He had a good reason to put that lamp in his closet. But many people today live their lives like that lamp. It may be on, but it is hidden and less effective.

If this sounds like you, Jesus has a message for you today. Matthew 5:14-16 (CSB):

*"You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

Many people today choose to live compartmentalized lives. They put on their Christianity where it's convenient, beneficial, or accepted. But when they do this, they are like the person who puts their lamp under a basket or in a closet.

We must not pretend to have a private life and a public life. The life of a Christian cannot be separated. Jesus called us the light of the world. This is who we are, not who we can be when we want. So we are to let our lives shine bright in all areas of life so that people will look at Christ all the time.

Yesterday we talked about being salt with our lives. Adding flavor and creating a thirst for Christ. Today, let's let our words and actions shine brightly on Christ, so they have no choice but to see Him clearly.

So here's my challenge for you: display your light.

How have you been hiding your light? How have you been compartmentalizing your public life and your private life? How have you put on a show at church or with your Christian friends but hid the light of Christ as you navigated your day?

Make an intentional choice throughout your day to let your light shine, so Jesus is made famous. When you do this, you will win the day.