



WEEK 3: You Are The Light - Evangelism

S.O.A.P. METHOD

Open your life group time with prayer. This is only a guide - select the points you want to discuss. Read as a group and follow up with the scripture reading. Talk it over as a group. If it's helpful use the S.O.A.P. method.

- What **Scripture**? Which Scripture is speaking to me, challenging me, moving me?
 - What **Observation**? What am I seeing now that I wasn't seeing before? What new learning?
 - What **Application**? What is God leading me to live out and put into practice?
 - What **Prayer**? What will I pray? What new prayer will I embrace? Who will I pray for?
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CURRICULUM

We are a beacon of light that guides people to Jesus

In, John:1:9-11, John reports that the people of that day did not welcome Jesus, the light of the world. Many people still today continue to shut the light (Jesus) out and prefer to live in darkness in many areas of their lives. We often build walls and close

doors in our lives, to the light (Jesus) that would reveal God's goodness and His purpose for our lives. In doing so, not only are we missing the transformative light that God wants to shine into our lives, but we fail to have enough light to help others find the way.

I believe there are small openings and cracks in those wall and doors that we build around ourselves. Openings that are just right for the "light" of Jesus to shine in and make a difference in our lives to make us want more and more light until all the darkness has been chased away. Maybe it is time that we open those doors and let the fullness of Jesus' light shine into our dark places.

In, Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven"

Scripture Reading:

- ***Matthew 5:13-16***
- ***John 1:9-11***

Discussion Questions

1. If Jesus is the light and he shines thru us, how important is it that we accept and live our our assignment as light?
2. Have you ever been open to a truth about God thru the lifestyle or life of someone you knew?

Our life must reflect the light of Jesus

As the sun went down upon His earthly ministry, Jesus publicly predicted His death and resurrection. Sometimes, He spoke subtly, claiming that "the light was among men for just a little while longer." His time on earth was coming to a close, when His physical presence on earth as Light would no longer be visible.

Christ's light continues to shine today through His people. We are the Light of the world, as Jesus told us, but the light that is in us does not come from ourselves or our deeds, no matter how holy and righteous we may think ourselves to be. The luster of our lives is *Christ* shining His way, His truth, and His life through us. Like the moon reflects the light of the sun back to a dark world, we too reflect the light of Christ to a world of people in darkness.

Jesus' statement about the brevity of the remaining light of His earthly work applies to each of our lives as well. The light that Jesus shines through our earthly ministry is for just a little while. Time is short, and life is shorter. We must make the most of every opportunity, living each moment to let our light shine before others... while we can.

That's the way Christ lived while on earth. Even as He approached His suffering and death on the cross, during His final week, He continued to speak truth and be light to a dark world.

Allow yourself to be a lantern in this world, through which Christ can shine His light.

Scripture Reading:

- *John 12:35*

Discussion Questions

1. Self-Examination: Are you reflecting the light of Christ in your relationships? Your family? Your ministry? Your vocation.
2. How much light does your life give forth? Are you using the opportunities that God has given you to shine Christ wherever you go?