

FAMILIAR LIGHT, FORGOTTEN RESPONSIBILITY

If you've heard this your whole life and you know it, then why aren't you doing it?

Based on the message by Justin Younger

OVERVIEW

Many believers are familiar with Jesus' words: "You are the light of the world." We have heard the scripture, learned the lesson, and can easily quote the passage. Yet Justin Younger challenges believers to move beyond familiarity and ask a deeper question: Are we actually living what we know?

Teaching from Matthew 5, John 8, and several other passages, Justin explains that believers become the light of the world because Christ, the true Light, lives within them. Because of that reality, followers of Jesus are called to walk in the light, reject partnership with darkness, and become visible witnesses of Christ in every area of life.

The message emphasizes that witnessing is not merely something believers do with words. Our lives are constantly testifying to what is happening in our hearts. Whether at home, at work, or in our communities, we are either reflecting the light of Christ or allowing darkness to influence us.

Justin also challenges parents, grandparents, and spiritual leaders to recognize the influence they carry. The next generation is watching. God has entrusted believers with the responsibility of shining the light of Christ before those they lead and love.

Ultimately, this message is a call to personal examination, renewed intimacy with Jesus, and faithful obedience. The question is not whether we know the truth. The question is whether we are living it.

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

Read → Respond → Reflect

Open your Bible. Read the Scripture carefully. Let the Word answer the questions.

As you work through this guide, keep your Bible open and allow Scripture to shape your understanding. The goal is not simply to remember sermon points, but to encounter Jesus, hear His voice, and apply His Word personally.

This guide is designed for individual study, family discipleship, and Roads Groups.

SECTION 1 — THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Focus

Jesus is the Light of the World, and believers become light because Christ lives in them.

Read

Matthew 5:13–16, John 8:12, Galatians 2:20

Respond

1. According to Matthew 5:14, how does Jesus describe His followers?
2. What instruction does Jesus give believers in Matthew 5:16?
3. According to John 8:12, what promise is given to those who follow Jesus?
4. In Galatians 2:20, who does Paul say lives within him?
5. How do these passages help explain how believers can be called the light of the world?

Reflect

- What areas of my life clearly reflect the light of Christ?
- Are there places where I have become comfortable knowing biblical truth without actively living it?
- What would change if I viewed every day as an opportunity to let Christ shine through me?

Further Scripture Reading

John 15:4–5, Ephesians 5:8–10, Philippians 2:14–16

SECTION 2 — WALKING IN THE LIGHT

Focus

Followers of Jesus cannot walk in both light and darkness. God calls His people to live in the light.

Read

1 John 1:5–7, John 12:44–46

Respond

1. According to 1 John 1:5, what is true about God?
2. What warning is given in 1 John 1:6?
3. According to 1 John 1:7, what happens when believers walk in the light?
4. Why did Jesus say He came into the world according to John 12:46?
5. What do these passages reveal about the relationship between following Jesus and walking in darkness?

Reflect

- Are there areas of my life that I have avoided fully surrendering to Christ?
- What hidden attitudes, habits, or compromises might be preventing the light from shining more brightly?
- How can I respond when the Holy Spirit exposes an area that needs to be brought into the light?

Further Scripture Reading

Psalm 139:23–24, Ephesians 5:11–14, Colossians 1:13–14

SECTION 3 — CALLED TO BE A WITNESS

Focus

Every believer has been called to be a witness for Jesus through both words and daily living.

Read

Acts 1:8

Matthew 5:14–16

Respond

1. According to Acts 1:8, what would believers receive when the Holy Spirit came upon them?
2. What assignment accompanies the power described in Acts 1:8?
3. How does Jesus describe the visibility of a city set on a hill in Matthew 5:14?
4. What is the purpose of letting our light shine before others according to Matthew 5:16?
5. Based on these passages, what does it mean to be a witness for Christ?

Reflect

- What kind of witness does my daily lifestyle present to the people around me?
- Would my family, friends, and coworkers see evidence that Jesus is transforming my life?
- Where is God calling me to become more intentional about representing Christ?

Further Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20, Colossians 4:5–6, 1 Peter 2:9–12

SECTION 4 — SHINING THE LIGHT AT HOME

Focus

God has entrusted parents, families, and spiritual leaders with the responsibility of influencing the next generation.

Read

Matthew 18:6

Matthew 5:16

Respond

1. What warning does Jesus give concerning those who cause His little ones to stumble?
2. What does this passage reveal about how seriously Jesus views spiritual influence?
3. According to Matthew 5:16, what should people see in the lives of believers?
4. How does shining the light of Christ help guide others toward God?
5. What responsibilities do these passages place on parents, grandparents, and spiritual mentors?

Reflect

- What lessons am I teaching through my actions, attitudes, and daily habits?
- If those closest to me imitate my walk with Christ, where would it lead them?
- What practical changes can I make to ensure my home reflects the light of Jesus?

Further Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 6:4–9, Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4

SECTION 5 — KEEP THE LIGHT BURNING

Focus

In dark times, believers must cultivate intimacy with God and refuse to settle for merely appearing religious.

Read

2 Timothy 3:1–5

Respond

1. What characteristics does Paul say will mark people in the last days?
2. Which of these characteristics stand out most to you as you observe the world today?
3. According to verse 5, what appearance will some people maintain?
4. What have they rejected according to verse 5?
5. Why is it dangerous to have the appearance of godliness without the power of a genuine relationship with God?

Reflect

- Am I cultivating a genuine relationship with Jesus or simply maintaining religious habits?
- What practices help keep my heart connected to God and sensitive to His voice?
- What would it look like for me to keep the light burning brightly in this season of my life?

Further Scripture Reading

John 15:1–8, Revelation 3:1–3, Matthew 25:1–13

FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Jesus did not call believers to hide their faith, blend into darkness, or simply know the right answers. He called them to be the light of the world.

The darkness around us is not overcome by complaints, fear, or frustration. Darkness is displaced when believers allow the light of Christ to shine through every area of their lives.

Whether in your home, workplace, church, or community, God has entrusted you with influence. Let your life become a visible testimony of His goodness, truth, and power.

If you've heard these scriptures your whole life and you know them, the question remains:

What are you doing with what you know?