



1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

September 14, 2022

You are the Light of the World

Midweek Youth

Join us every Wed. from 7-8pm for fellowship and prayer along with lessons applying Biblical principles to your life today and get answers to all your questions.

Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are still collecting "Personal Care Items" for teens in foster care throughout the year. Items for both male and female teens are being collected in the bin just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

This Week's Bible Verse

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was with God in the beginning.³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that



Wednesday Nights at 7:00pm

You have questions? We have answers! Join us for coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate, and light snacks while we discuss whatever is on your mind in a safe,

relaxed atmosphere.

EveryWednesdayNight!

Last Sunday



You are the Light of the World

Last Sunday, we continued in Matthew 5 to find Jesus telling us that we are "The Light of the World". We talked about all the ways that light is used as a metaphor and found that it is most often used as a symbol of extreme goodness and joy. Basically, light is God and all that is good while darkness is Satan and all that is evil.

We then discussed some of the interesting physical properties of light and determined that the real power of light is in its ability to overcome darkness. Light overcomes darkness as God overcomes evil.

has been made.⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

[Visit our website here!](#)

To understand what Jesus was talking about in **Matthew 5:14-16**, we looked at each verse individually. After Jesus tells us that we are the light, He says that a town built on a hill cannot be hidden. We talked about the radio towers on top of South Mountain and how everyone can easily see them from miles away in any direction.

We said that many Christians tend to keep their faith to themselves for fear of being unfairly judged or being afraid of maybe "offending" others. They go to Church on Sundays and maybe even behave Christian-like in their own home but it's much harder to be "Christian" out in the world. Jesus is telling us that our Christian lives should visibly stand out from the world for everyone to see wherever we are.

He tells us again, in the next verse, to not hide our light but rather hold it high so that everyone can see it and be guided out of the darkness by it.

We talked about and even showed an example of what happens when the power goes out and leaves everyone in darkness except for one person with a flashlight. We said that he suddenly becomes the most popular person in the room. He stands out from the darkness and everyone's focus is on him as he leads everyone out of the darkness to the light.

Jesus explains that is what we are to do in the next verse when He tells us to let our light shine by our good deeds. We said that people cannot see our faith but they can see our good deeds and actions which are a product of our faith and what will lead others to come to and glorify God.

So, we found that in **Matthew 5:13-16**, Jesus is basically telling us our purpose for being here. In a nutshell:

We are here to enhance the lives of others just by being here and to show God's glory to the whole world by our good deeds for everyone and everywhere to see, guiding others out of the darkness of the world and leading them to God's light.

We asked, so what stops us from being the **Light of the World**? The answer is... the world does.

We said to think of Jesus as the Sun and us as the Moon. The Moon does not have its own light but rather reflects the light of the Sun to take away the darkness of the night.

During a Lunar eclipse, the Earth gets between the Sun and the Moon, blocking the light for the Moon to reflect bringing darkness to the Earth.

In the same way, we reflect the light of Jesus to take away the darkness of the world until we let the world (fear, anger, offense, distractions, etc.) get in between us and Jesus keeping us from reflecting His light.

We showed an example that if only one of us lived our lives as the salt of the Earth and the light of the world, it would get a little less dark. But, as we shared our light with someone else, it would get even less dark. As more and more of us share God's light ALL of the darkness of the world is completely overcome.

This is God's plan and, according to Jesus, is the reason why we, as Christians, are all here. God wants ALL to be saved and He's using us to get it done.

So, shine God's light for everyone to see by the way that you live your life, doing good deeds and bringing all the glory to God, to help make the world a better place and bring everyone to God's saving grace one person at a time.



Living Word Ahwatukee
Phone: (480) 584-6116
Email: chris@1youthministry.com
Website: www.1youthministry.org

Connect with us



1 Youth Ministry | 14647 S. 50th Street, Suite 16, Phoenix, AZ 85044

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