

CITY LG – September 28-29, 2024

Today's Bible Story: I Saw the Light (Jesus Is the Light of the World) • *John 8:12*

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus is the light of the world.

Monthly Memory Verse: *"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven."* Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)

Monthly Virtue: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

WORSHIP

Shine a Light

At the Top of My Lungs

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, everyone! Today is a great day here in The City! We're talking about how we can shine the light of Jesus with the way we treat others.

Here's how Jesus said it in our Memory Verse for this month, Matthew 5:16. Say this with me.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, NIRV)

There it is—we can let our light shine bright as we share God's love with the people around us. Before we go any farther I have a question for you to talk about. Circle up with your small group and discuss this question: **When have you seen someone shine God's light?** Go ahead and discuss this in your group...

Large group leader should walk around listening to groups as they answer this. Give them a couple of minutes.

Today we're looking at something Jesus said about that, which we can find here in the book of John. (*Hold up Bible.*) John is one of the first four books of the New Testament that are known as the Gospels. These books tell us about the life of Jesus, and what Jesus did and said.

John—the man who wrote the book we're going to look at today—was one of Jesus' closest friends. He wrote down what he saw and heard to help everyone understand that Jesus really is the Son of God. John shared about several miracles Jesus performed, and he also wrote down some things that Jesus said about Himself. Let's take a look...

VIDEO: Bible Story

Remember what Jesus said:

Open the Bible to John 8:12 (NIRV) and read.

"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life." (NIRV)

Stand up and look at the screen with me.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

I need Jesus' light in my life. Don't you?

We ALL do. We've all done wrong things that hurt others and break our relationship with God. And we can't fix that. But here's the good news: Jesus DID fix it! God saw our need and sent Jesus to be our light in the darkness!

And when we choose to follow Jesus, we have a relationship with God that will last forever.

The truth is, we need the light and love of Jesus over and over and over. We need His wisdom when we're in tough situations. And we need His help to grow in compassion toward others.

SLIDE: Virtue

Remember, compassion means **caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.**

SLIDE: Theme

When we shine our light and share Jesus' love, we can help them see that **Jesus is the light of the world.** Let's pray and ask God to help us do that.

God, you know how much we all need Jesus. We need the light of Jesus to show us how to live, and how to share Your love. Thank You for sending Jesus to make a way for us to have a relationship with You. Please show us how we can live each day by shining His light to the world around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part.

OFFERING:

SLIDES: Hope Mobility 1-3

We are raising money for an organization called Hope Mobility. It was founded by Michael Panther who grew up as a child with a disability in Sudan. Hope Mobility collects and distributes wheelchairs in Africa while teaching families and communities to care for and to include people with disabilities. Our focus will be raising money for wheelchairs for kids. Each pediatric wheelchair costs \$275 and we will see how many wheelchairs we can purchase to help kids in Africa!

SLIDE: Theme