

Shining the Light

In the Old Testament this command is given as “Arise and Shine.”

Isaiah 60:1-3 ESV Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. (2) For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. (3) And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Jesus uses this same theme in the New Testament.

Matthew 5:14-16 ESV "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (15) Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. (16) In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

I. Our MISSION is to shine so as to reveal God's Truth.

John 3:19-21 ESV And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (20) For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. (21) But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

• Revealing God's Truth requires AUTHENTICITY.

Luke 11:33-36 ESV "No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. (34) Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. (35) Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. (36) If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light."

The 4 keys to authenticity are these...

Remembrance of who you are.

Examination of your heart.

Accountability to others.

Love must motivate all you do.

II. Our **MOTIVE** is to shine so we accurately reflect God's glory.

- **The PURPOSE of Missions is Worship.**

Missions exists because worship doesn't. John Piper

[Philippians 2:10-11 ESV \(10\)](#) ... that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [\(11\)](#) and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

[Psalms 86:9 ESV](#) All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

- **The POWER of Missions is Worship.**

[2 Corinthians 4:6-7 ESV \(6\)](#) For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. [\(7\)](#) But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.