



# **Lights and Perfection, Inc.**

**Go and make disciples!**

E-votional 26

## **Let Your Light Shine**

Luke 8:16-18 (ESV)

*“No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light. Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”*

Jesus was so amazing at how He interpreted spiritual truths to those who were spiritual by using parables as well as standard everyday things (i.e. a lamp). I am also amazed at the simplicity of these and how one does not need to go to seminary to understand them. I would also like to point out something the Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:13 (ESV)

*And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.*

There is indeed a secret and hidden wisdom of God that He decreed before the beginning of time for our glory (1 Corinthians 2:6-7). It is by and through this wisdom where we edify and lift one another up. I shared these Scriptures to show the correlation between what Jesus said as well as what Paul said. This correlation is that true wisdom from God is spiritual in nature. Because of this, we must rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance.

You may say, what does this all have to do with lighting a lamp and leaving it uncovered?

Well, let me show you. The light Jesus is referring to is, of course, the Holy Spirit. The manifestation of the Spirit for the common good is the way to let that light shine. In other words, God imparts spiritual fruit, wisdom, gifts, and graces, and then we release said fruit, wisdom, gifts, and graces by operating in and walking

in the Holy Spirit. It is really about being able to hear what God is saying and instructing us to do and doing it. This is wisdom.

Have you ever heard the voice of the Lord instruct you to do or say something? When He speaks, it is in the form of inspiration by His Spirit working on the inside of you. When you release whatever it is He was instructing you to do or say, you literally shine His Light.

Jesus was referring to not hiding that light under a basket. Have you ever thought about these baskets He is talking about here?

Of course, there is the obvious. For example, when we know God is speaking to us to do or say something and we simply ignore or quench the Holy Spirit.

However, I am going to relate the basket of hearing. What I am about to share is related to what Jesus meant when He said,

*“Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away  
(Luke 8:18)”*

Why would what we hear be so important? I will say this, after a certain period of time one can literally fall into what they continually hear. In other words, if I am constantly listening to negativity, I will be more susceptible to being negative myself. Likewise, if I am not truly seeking God first and His wisdom and rather listening to doctrines of men, then the very thing that I think I am standing in will be taken out from underneath me. I hope this is making sense.

Now, to touch on Matthew 25:29 (ESV),

*For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.*

Did you notice the similarity in the language Jesus used here and in the chosen passage in Luke 8:18?

The message in Matthew was talking about talents that were given or entrusted to servants. The goal was to multiply these talents. A talent was a weight of gold that was given to these servants. Each one was given a different amount, but all were expected to utilize what they were given. Are you following me? In Luke Jesus was commanding people to let their light shine and in the parable of the talents in Matthew, He was telling them to multiply what they were given. In short, Jesus was very effectively saying use the gifts I have given you or you will lose them and they will be given to another. This is also related to rewards in heaven. But

we are not talking on that subject at this time.

Again, Jesus was speaking spiritual truths to those who were spiritual. Here in the chosen passage, He is telling people that a person who will not hear is likened to a person who does not utilize what he has been entrusted with. Brothers and sisters, I have to believe that this is known as quenching the Spirit.

Sometimes the Spirit is quenched very simply because one chooses to willfully disobey what God has been instructing them to do. And in other cases, prolonged exposure to hearing false doctrines has desensitized very good people from really walking in the Spirit. Honestly, I have seen and even experienced some of both which is why I am passionate to share this teaching with all of you. My hope is that as you read this the Holy Spirit will begin to connect the dots for you and bring you closer to Him in a walk of pure devotion to His Voice and Word.

I will be very honest here, I have seen some wonderful people of God continually miss the mark on walking in the Spirit because they were either taught wrong or heard wrong. We were all entrusted by God through Jesus Christ with the same Holy Spirit so none of us should be without. The Lord is ready to freely give to all that ask Him (Luke 11:13b) and He shows no favoritism. All of God's people are one and have access to the same things that anyone one else in His Kingdom may have. To further illustrate that point, I will share something that A.W Tozer said that rings true,

*"Why do some persons 'find' God in a way that others do not? Why does God manifest His Presence to some and let multitudes of others struggle along in the half-light of imperfect Christian experience? Of course, the will of God is the same for all. He has no favorites within His household. All He has ever done for any of His children He will do for all of His children. The difference lies not with God but with us."*

(A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God: The Human Thirst for the Divine)

Brothers and sisters, please, I appeal to you, seek first God's Kingdom and His righteousness. Hunger and thirst for His Spirit to breath new life in you. Be filled with the Spirit. Put away your ways and receive with meekness the implanted Word of God. Listen for His voice and follow His leading as He leads you through His Word. Have a Berean mindset but also understand what the prophet said in Zechariah 4:6 (ESV),

*Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."*

We must not rely solely on our own human reasoning and intellect but on the Spirit of the living God. By this let your light shine!

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your faithfulness! You alone are holy and dwell in unapproachable light. Let not our faith rest in the wisdom of men, but in the power of our God. Challenge us to leave behind mere human ways and doctrines and to take up our crosses of pure devotion, obedience, and faithfulness to You. We love You and need You Lord and can't live without You. We do pray this, in Jesus name.

In Christ's Love,  
Chris and Jeanne  
Lights and Perfection, Inc



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