

REFLECTION - 3



*"No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light."
(Luke 8:16)*

These words from Jesus, as he unpacked his parables to his disciples in Luke, bring a heavy helping of common sense to how we should live out our faith and do mission. What use is a light that is hidden away? None whatsoever. A blocked light cannot guide or warm, it is simply lost energy.

A harsh interpretation perhaps, but also a necessary reminder. Are our lights on stands or hidden under our beds?

Our churches are full of light - shining brightly with earnest love, so why can't anyone seem to see them anymore? To put it simply, while the light may be filling up the room, those outside it are still in darkness. We need to put the light outside and illuminate the door. It is up to us to open the doors and reach out so that they may find a path. Don't wait for them to stumble upon us by chance.

This concept of sharing light is echoed again in Mathew 5:14-16 where we are reminded that WE are to be the light of the world - 'let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.' It is through our actions that we are to be known as God's children and so it is imperative that all we do reflects His light and never darkness.

So we are called to shine brightly - fueled by the limitless love we are blessed to know and receive. Do not dim your gifts - use them boldly so that others may see and know.

Light is generous - a flame is never diminished when shared, instead it will burn all the brighter as it ignites another.

