

You and I and every sinner on this planet deserve to be cast into hell, but Jesus in His great love for each and every sinner on this planet-past, present and future-laid down His life for us on the cross. He poured out His blood to pay for our sins, to satisfy His Father's wrath, and to reconcile us to God. This is a message that every person on earth needs to hear; you and I need to be reminded of it daily. Every person on earth needs to know what Jesus has done for them.

People in your corner of the world-people who are hurting, people filled with hate, people whose lives are hanging by a thread-a breath away, a heartbeat away from eternity, just like you and I, they need to see the light of Jesus.

Jesus says, "A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl." Little children sing this truth: "This little gospel-light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine! Let it shine all the time, let it shine."

Christ Jesus, in His mercy, has kindled His fire in our hearts. He has put His light on a stand to shine in and around and from us. Thanks be to God for the indescribable gift that each of us has had and still has in this dark world to shine the light of Jesus' love to everyone.

Shining with you in Christ,
Pastor Golm

P.S. Just another reminder: we will resume in-person services at Messiah THIS SUNDAY, June 21st at 9:30 a.m. Ladies, get out your Easter bonnets! We will be having a celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. We will not be having an Easter breakfast this Sunday, but we will be fed with God's Word and Sacrament. I hope to see you there! Please pass this news along to any family members who may not be aware of it. Thanks!

June 19

The Life That Counts

Ye are the light of the world. Matthew 5:14

The clock in a jeweler's window stopped one day for only half an hour. The hands stood still at 8:20 a.m. School children on their way to school, noticing the time, stopped to play; people on their way to work, when they saw the clock, slowed their pace; and a man, hurrying by to catch a train,

slackened his gait when he saw that he still had plenty of time.

But all were late because one little clock had stopped! Never had these people realized how much they had depended on that little clock in the jeweler's window, till for the first time in their lives it had led them astray.

In a sense, everyone who professes to lead the Christian life is very much like that little clock. People all around us are, consciously or unconsciously, being influenced by what we say and do. If we permit our Christianity to "stop" for just a little while, if by careless speech or improper conduct we set a bad example, we are likely to lead our fellowmen astray-just as surely as did that little clock.

It is wrong to assume, even for a moment, that our lives, just because they are "little", do not count; that our actions are unimportant; that our influence is insignificant. Christ tells every Christian, even the humblest: "You are the light of the world." And then he adds pointedly: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." By our very lives we are to point the way for others.

Your life is an instrument in the hands of Christ to bring others to him and to heaven. How important, then, that each of us make his life count to the fullest! Each of us is a light in the world.

Lord, I pray You in Jesus' name: may my life be an influence for good and not for evil. May Your Holy Spirit guide me so that I may truly be a light which leads my fellowmen to You. Amen.

(Devotion from: Daily Walk With God - Meditations for Every Day, by Herman W. Gockel)