

Grace Groups Homework
“This Little Light of Mine”

Ephesians 5:8–14

19 February 2017

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Whom did God use to shine the gospel light into your life, while you were still in darkness?

APOLOGETIC

2. “This world cannot become a better place unless Christians take their task of letting their light shine into it seriously.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. Read the passages below and consider the questions that arise from it:

1 Corinthians 6:9–11—Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Colossians 1:9–14—For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

How do these passages, and our text this week, explain the change that occurs when someone becomes a believer?

How does this understanding then influence your thinking in terms of:

self-image and your place in society?

evangelism?

the significance of the church?

GOING DEEPER

4. Walking as children of light results in the production of fruit—goodness, righteousness and truth. But this fruit is produced IN us, and not so much BY us. What are the implications of this for anyone who wishes to see such fruit in their lives? How does one nurture the growth of such fruit? What’s “sunbathing” got to do with it?
5. Discuss the tension that exists between being a helpful light in the world, and yet not being a part of this world. Have you seen compromise in this regard in your own life? Have you seen effective examples of light penetrating the darkness?
6. Is the apostle Paul calling believers to lives of antagonism and action when he instructs the reader to expose the unfruitful works of darkness? What should the believer’s attitude towards the numerous and pressing social causes and political issues be?
7. This little light of mine is actually not so little. Discuss the power and the potential of this light, not generically, but how it applies to and affects you.

PRAYER ITEMS

Prayer Psalm: 19

Church Families: Lorraine Papazoglou; Gareth, Debbie, Gabriella, Caleb & Hannah Payne

Special Needs: Cathy Chase; Dirk Erasmus; Anton Richter; Hannah Murphy; Unemployed & underemployed

Expectant Couples: Hugo & Wendy-Leigh van der Walt; Tyron & Selaysha Armstrong; Sean & Tammy Kennedy; Andrew & Sandhya Lear; Gareth & Debbie Payne

Ministry: Music & Choirs

The Great Commission:

- Tommie & Allison van der Walt—India
- Romania (southeastern Europe)—The burden of the tragic past has left the population in total disarray, which has led to many social ills: crime, prostitution, abortion, poverty, etc. Christianity is widespread, but it is mostly Eastern Orthodox, with a small percentage of evangelicals. Pray that the Spirit will move in the hearts of Romanians with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Unreached Focus: Bangladesh (163.7 million people; 90% Muslim; 9% Hindu; 1% other)

Sister Churches: Germiston Baptist Church—Peter Sammons

Our Country: Arts & Culture—Mr Nathi Mthethwa & Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi

As you do your regular grocery shopping, please remember to add something to your trolley to donate to the Food for the Family ministry. Regularly used items include: rice (1kg or 2kg); juice; washing powder (auto or hand wash); cooking oil (750ml or 2-litre); peanut butter; syrup; jam; tea; coffee; sandwich spread; pilchards; tuna; cake flour; baked beans; butter beans; mixed vegetables; tomato and onion mix; other canned foods; Cremora or long life milk; pasta; noodles; condiments (tomato sauce, mustard), etc.; sugar (1kg or 2.5kg); mielie meal; bath soap; deodorant (roll-on); toothpaste. Speak to Andre Truter for more information.