

The Light of the World
Jesus Has Come to Make Us Light-Bearers
Matthew 5:14-16

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) give us the formula for blessing and happiness. The temptation might be to understand Christianity solely in terms of this happiness being the ultimate end of our faith. But the verses that follow show us that there is something more to this kingdom than our happiness. Our happiness is meant to be a means to a greater end—introducing the kingdom to others.

1. Christ's light is to be ever-present.
2. Christ's light is to be noticeable.
3. Christ's light is to glorify God.

Jesus was talking to a crowd on a hillside in a tiny spot of land called Judea and Samaria on the outskirts of an Empire whose headquarters was on another continent. It was a group of common people living out common ordinary lives. They were under occupation. They couldn't make their own laws. They couldn't plan their own futures. They couldn't determine their own destinies. Yet to these people he said, "You are the light of the world."