# Shining Your Faith: Lessons from the Gospels



Explore the Gospels through Mark 4:21-23, learning how hidden faith limits us and discover the power of boldly shining for Christ.





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#### Introduction

The Gospels uniquely reveal the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the foundation of our Christian faith. Through their narratives, we see Jesus' words and actions that inspire us to live boldly for Him. One powerful passage that challenges believers is *Mark 4:21-23*, where Jesus teaches about a lamp being placed on a stand to give light, not hidden under a bowl. This imagery conveys a profound truth: faith meant to be lived in the light loses its power when concealed.

Many of us can relate to moments when our faith feels private or even hidden, perhaps out of fear, discomfort, or the desire to avoid conflict. But Jesus calls us to let our light shine visibly in the world. Hidden faith becomes powerless faith; it cannot guide or inspire others, nor fully transform our own hearts when kept in the shadows.

This study plan invites you to journey deeper into this teaching through the Gospels, uncovering how Jesus models shining brightly and how we are called to do the same. Each day, we will explore scripture, reflect on the cost and beauty of open faith, and discover practical ways to live it out boldly. Be encouraged that God equips us to illuminate the darkness around us, impacting lives and glorifying Him in every step.

Let your faith not be hidden but a vibrant light in a dark world. 🥎

















#### Your Verse

Mark 4:21–23 NIV "Do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed? Instead, don't you put it on its stand? For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open."

#### Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."
- Luke 8:16 "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light."







#### Devotional: Answering the Call to Shine Brightly

**Jesus' message in Mark 4:21–23** is clear and direct: faith is not meant to be obscured or hidden away like a lamp under a bowl. It's meant to illumine our lives and influence the world around us. Just as light reveals what is hidden in a room, openly living out our faith exposes truth, brings warmth, and provides guidance.

When we choose to hide our faith, whether out of fear of rejection, false humility, or complacency, we deny ourselves and others the blessings that come from shining brightly for Christ. Light invites transformation—both in ourselves and those who witness it. It encourages openness, vulnerability, and boldness.

Today's scriptures remind us that God's Word and truth are not for secrecy. Jesus Himself modeled living openly for God's kingdom, speaking with authority, healing publicly, and confronting darkness. Consider areas in your life where your faith feels hidden or dimmed. Let this passage challenge you to reexamine those places and ask God to help your light shine.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	What are some reasons I might be hiding my faith from others?
	How can the image of a lamp on a stand encourage me to live more openly for Christ?
3.	In what ways does letting my faith shine affect those around me?







## **Journaling Prompts**

	List moments when you felt your faith was hidden and what impacted that choice.
2.	Write about a time your open faith influenced someone positively.
3.	Pray and journal about what barriers need to be removed for your light to shine boldly.







#### **Prayer for Today**

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the light of the world and calling me to live openly for You. Help me to overcome fears and doubts that keep my faith hidden. *Ignite a boldness within me* to let my life and words reflect Your love and truth. May I shine as a lamp on a stand, bringing hope and clarity to those around me. Empower me daily to live courageously in Your light. Amen. �� 1







# Day 2: Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example









Day 2: 🎇 Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example

#### Your Verse

John 8:12 NIV When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 9:35 "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching... proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease."
- Luke 4:18–19 "He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor... freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind."







Day 2: 🗱 Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example

#### Devotional: Following Jesus' Bold Public Example

Jesus' ministry was marked by open, public acts of compassion and teaching. He did not shy away from crowds or confrontation. Instead, He boldly proclaimed the kingdom of God and demonstrated love in visible ways. This sets a powerful example for us: shining brightly means engaging with the world, not retreating from it.

When Jesus said, "I am the light of the world," He invited us to follow in His footsteps. Our faith is not a private treasure but a public testimony. Like Him, we are called to bring truth and healing into dark places by boldly living out our calling.

Reflect on how often Jesus healed openly or taught in public places. This was intentional, showing that faith impacts every aspect of life — not just private moments. Our witness carries much weight in a world searching for light. Like Jesus, we must seek opportunities to reveal God's love boldly so others can see and be transformed.







Day 2: 🎇 Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example

#### Reflect and Apply

	What aspects of Jesus' public ministry inspire me to be bolder with my faith?
	How does seeing Jesus serve and teach openly challenge the way I live my faith?
3.	What practical steps can I take to be more visible in sharing God's love?







Day 2: 🎇 Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example

#### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Describe ways you can imitate Jesus' public witness in your daily life.
2.	Recall a time when you witnessed God's love publicly and its impact.
3.	Write a prayer seeking courage to step into more visible faith opportunities.







Day 2: 🗱 Christ's Public Ministry as Our Example

#### Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for Jesus who sets the example of bold faith in public life. Teach me to follow Him fearlessly. Help me to be a beacon of Your love and truth wherever I go. Give me opportunities to share my faith openly and to serve others as Jesus did. *Fill me with Your light* so it shines through me clearly to those around me. **In Jesus' name, Amen.** \*















#### Your Verse

Matthew 5:16 NIV In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Philippians 2:15 "...shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life."
- 1 Peter 3:15 "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."







# Devotional: Authentic Light Through Daily Faithful Actions

**Faith that shines is actionable and consistent.** Jesus calls us to live visibly by demonstrating good deeds that point others to God. This isn't about showmanship but authentic love and integrity lived out each day.

Shining faith means being ready to share hope and truth gently, offering encouragement, and standing firm in our beliefs. When our actions match our words, our light is undeniable, inspiring others and glorifying God.

Consider your daily routines and relationships. How can your light shine brighter through kindness, honesty, and readiness to share your faith? Jesus reminds us that even small acts of love have great power when done in His name. Ushering faith out from hiding into daily visibility transforms not only others but deepens our own relationship with Christ.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	What daily habits help or hinder the visibility of my faith?
2.	How can I ensure my actions truly reflect the hope I have in Christ?
	In what ways might I increase my readiness to share my faith with others?







#### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Identify three practical ways to let your light shine in everyday life.
2.	Write about a recent experience where your faith was evident to others.
3.	Pray and journal about cultivating a lifestyle of visible and faithful living.







#### **Prayer for Today**

**Gracious God,** empower me to live a faith that shines brightly every day. Help me to show Your love through actions and words that honor You. Give me boldness and readiness to share the hope within me. May my life be a reflection of Your grace and light, drawing others nearer to You. *Use me as Your lamp on a stand.* **Amen.** �� 1 100







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