

# **“The Light and the Basket”**

## **Key verses:**

- John 8:12 - Jesus is the Light of the world. Whoever follows Him will never walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life.
- 2Corinthians 4:6 - God made His Light shine in our hearts to give us the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.
- Ephesians 5:8-14 - Live as children of the Light. Light makes everything visible.
- Matthew 5:14-16 - We are the light of the world and are to let our light (really His light in us) shine before men in order that they see our good behavior and praise our Father in heaven. God is to get the glory, not us.

♦ Please refer to the illustration also entitled, “The Light and the Basket.”

## **Key concepts:**

- 1) The Light comes from Jesus Christ (often through others). We are filled with all the things that only Jesus can provider (love, purpose, meaning, hope, joy, wisdom, peace, protection, etc.). The world offers but cannot give these things. It does provide cheap substitutions and temporary pleasures that may give the appearance of these things.
- 2) When we receive His Light, we become a light for Jesus to the world.
- 3) The people of the world then, when they receive the Light, can in turn share the Light with others (a “ripple” effect).
- 4) The process goes on till everyone comes to salvation and accomplishes His purpose for those who are destined to do so. The others choose to reject His Light.

**Jesus tells us, in Matthew 5:15, not to put our light under a “basket” (or bowl).**

## **Consider the following questions:**

- 1) Who is the most important One to enjoy the Light of Christ in us? Why is this important? (hint: 1Corinthians 10:31)
- 2) When we receive the light of Christ, what accompanies that light (the things that the world cannot give)? (hint: see key concept #1 above)
- 3) What are some things in your life that represents the “basket” that blocks the Light, coming in and going out?” Some examples may include:

<input type="checkbox"/> Pride	<input type="checkbox"/> Disbelief	<input type="checkbox"/> Addictions
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrogance	<input type="checkbox"/> Disobedience	<input type="checkbox"/> Idolatry (things placed before God)
<input type="checkbox"/> Laziness	<input type="checkbox"/> Greed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Selfishness	<input type="checkbox"/> Lust	
- 4) What are some **signs** that someone may not be receiving the light of Jesus?
- 5) When we identify things keeping us from receiving and sharing the Light, what should we do to restore the Light? (hint: 1John 1:9, Philippians 4:6, Colossians 4:2, Psalm 119:105, 2Timothy 3:16-17)

**My life is a gift from God. What I do with it is my gift to Him.**