

Summary of Shine: Let Your Light Show

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Action Items

Shine intentionally each day

Look for practical opportunities at school, work, home, and online to demonstrate Christlike character and share encouragement.

Remove spiritual obstacles

Identify bitterness, unforgiveness, shame, doubt, or worldly pressure that may be dimming your witness, and surrender them to God.

Encourage young believers

Remind young people that God can use them now and provide courage and words for their witness.

Redirect praise to God

When others recognize your kindness or work, respond humbly and acknowledge God as the source of your strength.

Confirm your faith

Reflect on where you will spend eternity and make a clear decision to trust and follow Jesus Christ.

Shine: Let Your Light Show

The message centered on “**SHINE**,” an acronym describing how Christians are called to live as lights in the world:

- **S — Set apart:** Believers are chosen, sanctified, and positioned to stand out for God. Scriptures including Matthew 5:14, 1 Peter 2:9, Jeremiah 1:5, and Ephesians 2:10 emphasize that God created and called each person for a purpose. Being peculiar or different is not something to fear; it may reflect the Holy Spirit working within us.
- **H — Hide not:** Jesus taught that a lamp should not be placed under a

basket. Christians should not conceal their faith because of rejection, embarrassment, or pressure to fit in. They are encouraged to avoid destructive influences and remain separate from sinful behavior while still being a witness to others.

- **I — Inside out:** Genuine spiritual transformation begins within and becomes visible through character, conduct, speech, kindness, and choices. The focus is not on appearance or religious performance, but on allowing the Holy Spirit's work inside to shape outward behavior.
- **N — Not you, but God:** Good works are not intended to glorify the individual. Christ is the true light and the source of believers' strength; people should see faithful actions and ultimately glorify God. Praise and credit should be redirected to Him.
- **E — Even now:** Age, inexperience, or insecurity should not prevent anyone from serving God. Like Jeremiah, young people may feel unqualified, but God promises to provide the words, direction, and courage needed. Every believer can shine immediately—in school, at work, online, at home, and among friends.

John 1 and 1 John 1 reinforced that Jesus is the true light, that His life shines into darkness, and that those who receive Him become children of God. The congregation was reminded that believers are an extension of Christ's light through the Holy Spirit.

A candle illustration showed that a flame depends on its wick and surrounding wax, just as Christians depend on God. Unforgiveness, bitterness, shame, guilt, rejection, doubt, and worldly pressures can gradually diminish spiritual influence. These obstacles may not extinguish the light suddenly, but they can slowly cause it to burn less brightly. God's Word and the Holy Spirit provide strength and renewal.

The discussion acknowledged that shining publicly can be difficult, especially when people fear ridicule or rejection. Participants were encouraged to be intentional about small opportunities: kind words, prayer, invitations, conversations, and consistent Christlike behavior. The meeting closed with a reminder that life is uncertain, eternity matters, and each person should make sure they are trusting Christ and using their life to glorify Him.

