



Daily Reflections

September 24, 2018

Scripture

Luke 8: 16-18

Jesus said to the crowd:

"No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel
or sets it under a bed;
rather, he places it on a lampstand
so that those who enter may see the light.

For there is nothing hidden that will not become visible,
and nothing secret that will not be known and come to light.

Take care, then, how you hear.

To anyone who has, more will be given,
and from the one who has not,
even what he seems to have will be taken away."

Our Scripture Reflection

Faith, as Our Lord describes it, is a use it to lose it proposition. If you have faith and work at it through prayer and works of mercy for those who are in need, the faith you have will grow and deepen. If faith is not practiced, it will wither and die. Faith is meant to be like a bright light, a light that illumines the darkness in our world. We have work to do, my Friends.

Food for your Journey

Light makes things beautiful. Light makes people beautiful. Light sets a kind of mood. If you think of all of these lights, just note the kinds of images and even feelings and moods these call forth. Think of the light of a candle at a dinner table for two. Think of a campfire, with young people singing and roasting marshmallows. Think of a flashlight when the electricity goes out. A street lamp on a foggy evening; the sun coming through stained — glass windows; a Christmas tree; the sky just before the sun sets; a reading lamp beside a cozy chair; a night light in your child's bedroom; the bright sun on a sandy beach; the headlights on your car; the reflected light of a full moon on a clear night; the glow of starlight; the lights that outline the runway at the airport; the spotlights at the theater.

Light is indeed powerful and beautiful. And the imagery of light is used throughout the Bible. "God is light and in him is no darkness at all," says the book of First John. "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" says Psalm 27. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John the Baptist spoke about the light of Christ, testifying that "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world."

There's no doubt about the source of light. And yet, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says: "You are the light of the world," and "Let your light shine."

— Cliff Loesch, "Life as children of light," University Friends Meeting Web Site

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You have blessed me with the gift of faith. At times my faith is put to the test. I ask You, Lord, to protect me with Your Grace. Keep me strong in my faith and help it to grow as I put Your Gospel into practice. Amen