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

Today Gospel text is part II of yesterday’s Gospel on stewardship.
Jesus tells us that we have been entrusted with both time and talent. We are expected to
produce with these wonderful treasures. We are called to be His light to the world. We must
shine...no hiding is permitted. The world is filled with so much darkness and pain and we have
been both empowered and entrusted to reveal Jesus, the light. Please note: Being gifted is a
use it or lose it proposition. If you do not keep the light shining brightly, then it will be taken from
you and given to a steward who will.

Food for your Journey

Who said being a light is easy???
Amy Biehl, straight-A college student and diving champion, was a vital, young Christian woman
who went off to support the cause of justice in South Africa. Her life ended tragically in 1994,
when she was stoned and stabbed to death by a mob of angry black militants.
To them, she was just a white person, an oppressor. They had no idea they were killing a friend of their own cause.

It was one of those tragic, senseless events. Amy’s parents were devastated by the news. But instead of lashing out in anger, they decided to try to do what their daughter would have wanted. They learned as much as they could about the struggle for freedom in South Africa, eventually traveling there themselves.

They visited the squatter camps of Guguletu, the black township where Amy’s killers had grown up. Seeing the terrible conditions, they began to understand the frustrations that drove some of them to violence.

Linda [Amy’s mother] even visited the home of one of the murderers and met with his mother. She told her she forgave the woman’s son for what he had done. Later she told a reporter from TV’s 60 Minutes what she felt after hugging the woman:

“I walked out of that home. There was a rainbow in the sky. My heart was very light. I felt I had come to terms. And if that is forgiveness, I felt it. And I felt — you know, I felt — I feel at peace with myself. So to me, that’s forgiveness.”

When they returned to the States, the Biehls established the Amy Biehl Foundation to fund 15 different social programs serving thousands of young people.

Among the children who first enrolled in the after-school program was the 12-year-old sister of one of the murderers. When her brother and the other two murderers applied for amnesty after serving four years in jail, the authorities told Peter and Linda they could block the men’s release, if they wished. The Biehls decided not to object, and the men were freed.


A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You are forever the light of the world. I pray for the Grace today to be Your light in a world that is filled with so much darkness and pain. Please keep me humble, Holy and pure, so that when people see me, they see Your light. Amen