

MEN'S MINISTRY

Servant Warrior Ministries™ **REAL • RADICAL • RELENTLESS • RELEVANT**

Proverbs 27:17

L.E.D. — Light Emitting Disciple By: Jeff Searcy

Hello, October! Fall is in full swing, and my craving for North Georgia fried apple pies has peaked. The Fall Classic is once again upon us, 'college football' dominates conversations and God is expecting His kids, that's us by the way, to shine a little brighter this month and give the trick-or-treaters more 'lumens' than lollipops.

Creation: Day 1 ... God set the tone for His plan. "God saw that the light was good and He separated the light from the darkness." (Genesis 1:4). God completely separated the two and placed extreme significance and importance on light as His Son, Jesus Christ, was the Light of the world during His earthly ministry (John 9:5), who then passed that calling on to us (Matthew 5:14).

In Ephesians 5, Paul tells all believers, "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them."

Now, I'm not saying that being the light of the world is easy. It's tough! Why? Because to be the light that we have been called to be, we have to put ourselves out there, exposed and on display in the middle of the arena, which is why we'll often shy away from being the 'light.'

Most people are afraid of speaking in public. Well, except for crazy folks like me, who feel perfectly at home and comfortable talking on a stage in front of a million people. However, when we are light, as God calls us to be light, we are to be "on a hill, put on a stand to give light to everyone in the house and to let your light shine before men." (Matthew 5).

I hear the screams now, "NOOOOOO! Anything but that, God!"

Sorry folks. We are not called to be lampshade Christians. We are called to be super 'L.E.D.'s' — shining for all to see.

In fact, three things are going to happen to you when you are the light God has called you to be:

1. People are going to look AT you.

Sorry. Get over it. Remember "... the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7) People want to see how you live your life. If you are real and genuine. God wants people to look at us, His children. "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Some of you may be saying, "Jeff, I just don't think I shine that brightly." Trust me. You shine brighter than you think. The thought that you don't is a lie the devil wants you to believe because he knows what will happen once you allow the light of Christ to shine through you.

2. People are going to look TO you. When you bring light and Truth to people, situations and circumstances, people are going to look to you for guidance, direction and to show them the way. The light of Christ in us is a flashlight for those walking in darkness. I hear it now, "Jeff, I've made so many mistakes, how can I lead anyone? How can I show anyone the way?" Again, those are lies meant to discourage you and make you believe you have nothing to offer. Nothing happens in our lives that God doesn't intend for us to use to impact another life for His glory. Yes, that includes all of the mistakes and bad decisions we've made throughout our lives. Remember, "God works all things for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

3. People are going to look FOR you. So many look for fulfillment in things of the world, possessions, power, in other people and continue to end up unfulfilled. The more they search, the more they fall. "But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble." (Proverbs 4:19) As followers of Christ, we emit a light, a joy and a peace that people are looking for. They may not think so or realize it but they're looking. They recognize there's something different about a follower of Christ, a child of light and if we are genuine and real. If we lead people in light and in Truth, people will seek to get what we have. How awesome to say with a resounding, "YES! You can have the peace, the joy and the light. His name is Jesus."

So, check your batteries, plug into His power and be the light, the 'L.E.D.' you have been called to be. Until next time, Keep it Real ... and Armor Up! **PS**

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