

The Spotlight Is On You

You may not realize this, but because you profess to be a Christian, the spotlight is on you more often than you think. No matter what circumstances arise, we have an obligation to respond with the love of Christ. Although each of us may go about this a little differently, there are some very telling signs that let others know whether we have truly put on the love of Christ in our hearts. What do you do when no one is looking? When an opportunity to do a good deed is presented to you, how do you respond? The answers to these questions should always be in the forefront of every believers mind.

All of us should want to prove to God and others who we are, and how far we've come from who we use to be. And make no mistake about it, life insures that we are constantly confronted with situations that will bear that out. We endure and overcome challenges that will speak loudly about what we stand for as children of the Most High God. We are representatives for Him and ambassadors for Christ. The job requires that we are attentive to the task, because others are watching to see how God works through us. For instance, I know of a Christian woman who is much admired in her workplace for her faith. She has even been known on occasion to witness to co-workers, and she minces no words about what she believes when asked. Her colleagues are very respectful. They understand that she cannot participate in office activities that might go against her faith, but imagine their surprise when one day she refused to make a monetary contribution to assist a co-worker who was a friend in need.

When she was asked to contribute, she shook her head in a very disapproving way and indicated that she wanted no part in what her officemates had chosen to do. There is no doubt that she had her reasons, but she also had an obligation to handle this in a way that conveyed her love of Christ, particularly when she had always so passionately professed it. Now, we all have a right to our own opinions and the right to decide how we spend our money, but we have to be careful that we don't overlook an opportunity to do good.

What is the Christian thing to do? That question must always be on our minds. **Matthew 5:16 (KJV)** says, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."* As the Body of Christ, we are to be his examples. We should uphold the standard he set. That standard is a witness to unbelievers on how to live and how to show love to others. Our love for him is the brightest light in the universe. We are to let it shine so that others can see it and give

God the glory. If we are well intentioned and have a heart to please Him, any opportunity to do a good deed is a chance to show forth God's love in the earth.

There are more people who have chosen to ignore God's way than those who have chosen to follow it. Unfortunately, there are even swarms of Christians who have not been taught how to practice and show love. Many of us continue to follow after the ways of the world! We rejoice in the Lord on Sunday, but do very little after that to prove His love. Don't let this be said of you.

If you are one of God's disciples, others will look at your life with scrutiny. Don't think for one moment that you don't have what it takes to meet their expectations. You do! They are not looking for you to be perfect; they are looking for Christ. It isn't about you, but the Christ that you allow to shine forth. We have the ability to affect change for God's Kingdom. Everyday there are people with whom we come in contact that will only see the love of God through us. We are the closest thing to heaven they will ever see on this earth. So, from the moment you rise each morning, take heart to be your best for God, and remember....the spotlight may be on you.