

The Parable of the Lamp (Luke 8:16-18)

Scripture Text:

16. "Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed; but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light.
17. For nothing is hidden that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light.
18. So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him." (Luke 8:16-18 NASB1995)

Outline:

- I. Take Care How You Light (v.16)
- II. Take Care How You Live (v.17)
- III. Take Care How You Listen (v.18)

Worksheet:

- I. Take Care How You Light (v.16)
 - a. "Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed;"
 - i. Jesus uses the power of the absurd statement to illustrate His point.

- ii. **What** would happen to a flame if you "cover it over with a container"? ____

- iii. **What** would happen to a flame if you "put it under a bed"?

- iv. Is there any benefit in placing a lighted lamp under any of these two things?

- v. **Where** are some other places that the light of God's word and revelation are hidden doing no good for anyone?

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- b. "but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light."
i. **Where** is the proper place to but a lamp and why?

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- ii. **What** does the lampstand represent in the life of a Christian and how does that relate to one's testimony before the world?

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1. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;
(Matthew 5:14 NASB1995)
2. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

(Matthew 5:16 NASB1995)

- iii. **What** is the goal of the Christian relative to the placement of the lighted lamp?

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- iv. **Who** is this lighted lamp for according to this verse?

II. Take Care How You Live (v.17)

- a. "For nothing is hidden that will not become evident,"

- i. Is Jesus trying to hide truth from people?

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- ii. **What** are the consequences of not knowing or having the truth?

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1. So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

(John 8:31-32 NASB1995)

2. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

(1 Timothy 2:3-4 NASB1995)

- iii. If God desires for people to know the truth why don't they know it when He has made it available to them?

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1. **The Devil:** "but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending

ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Corinthians 4:2-4 NASB1995)

2. **The World:** "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." (Romans 1:18-20 NASB1995)
3. **The Flesh:** "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil." (John 3:19 NASB1995)

b. "nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light."

- i. **What** does this verse speak of related to truth?

- ii. Distinguish between "will not be known" and "come to light." Are these two ideas redundant or do they have different meanings?

1. Under these circumstances, after so many thousands of people had gathered together that they were stepping on one another, He began saying to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops.

Luke 12:1-3 NASB1995

2. Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

1 Corinthians 4:5 NASB1995

3. The sins of some men are quite evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their sins follow after. Likewise also, deeds that are good are quite evident, and those which are otherwise cannot be concealed.

1 Timothy 5:24-25 NASB1995

III. Take Care How You Listen (v.18)

a. "So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given;"

- i. **Why** is it important for people to listen carefully in this life and before the judgement?

ii. Is **how** you listen important? **Why**?

iii. Is **who** you listen to important? **Why**?

iv. Is when you listen important? **Why**?

v. **Who** are the enemies of truth? The _____ who is the father of lies and _____ who lie like him and suppress the truth in unrighteousness. (Romans 1:18)

vi. If one's knowledge of the truth and what they do with it is so very important because of the eternal consequences that follow, then who is the enemy of all man-kind?

vii. **What** does "for whoever has, to him more shall be given;" mean as it relates to "light" and "revelation"?

b. "and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

i. This is a concept that Jesus makes reference to many times in his parables, **what** does this mean? **What** is this a picture of?

ii. **What** can those in the final judgement expect as it relates to revelation and opportunities to respond to it?
