

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

The Lord said to his disciples, "Because you do good works, you are like a light in the world. If a light is on a hill, many people can see it. If a lamp is giving light to a room, you do not put a box over it, instead you let it shine so the room has light.

When you do good works, people thank God for you. Let everything you do be good.

"For many, many years God's people have followed God's law, the Ten Commandments. They do what is good. I want people to follow these. Whoever follows these, and teaches others to, will be great in the kingdom of heaven."

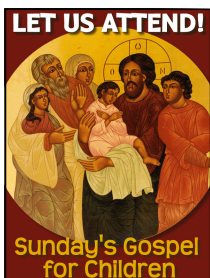
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. When Jesus was on earth, some people thought he would say, "Forget everything you have learned about God." He did not. He told people to follow God's law, as they had been doing.
2. There are people in the world that do not know what is good. They need to see someone else doing good works. Then they know what to do.
3. Think about last week, did you do anything that helped someone? Did you share your toys last week? Did you take turns?
4. Helping, sharing, and taking turns are good things to do. Other kids see you doing the right thing, and they learn that it is good.
5. Look at the icon. Jesus helped many people. He healed many people. Can you find the two men who are blind? Jesus healed them.
6. Even when it is hard, do the right thing. Jesus said, if you do the right thing, and teach others to do what is right,



AND
JESUS WENT ALL ABOUT,
TEACHING, PREACHING, AND
HEALING...

Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)



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Pre-12

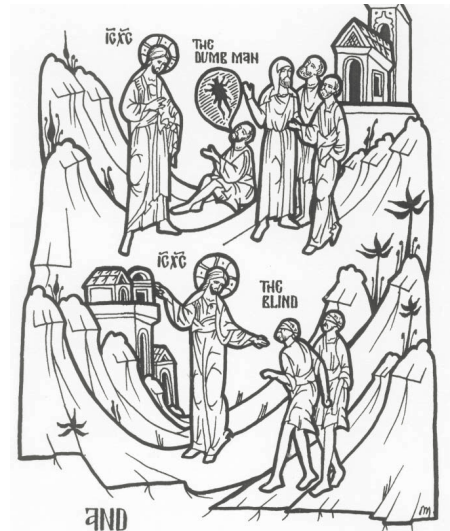


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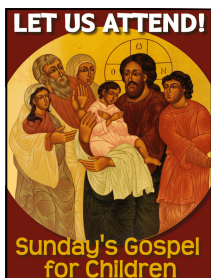


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2. There are many people in the world who do not know what is good. They need to see someone else doing good works. Then they know what to do.
3. Think about this week, did you do anything that helped someone?
4. Did you share your toys?
5. Did you take turns?
6. Helping, sharing, and taking turns are good things to do. Other kids see you doing the right thing, and they learn that it is good.
7. Are there other things that are good to do?
8. What are things that are not good?
9. Even when it is hard, do the right thing. Jesus said, if you do the right thing,



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The Lord said, to his disciples, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish

them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

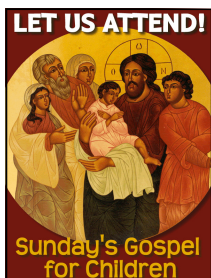
Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”



Image courtesy of comeandseeicons.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Today we celebrate the Holy Fathers of the fourth ecumenical council. Ask an adult from your church family what these fathers said about Jesus.
2. What have you learned about Jesus at church? Ask someone at church how your church community learned that these things about Jesus were true.
3. Today’s gospel says “you are the light of the world.” What does a light of the world do?
4. How were the fathers of the fourth ecumenical council a light to the world?
5. How was your patron saint a light to the world?
6. What can you do this week to be a light to the world?



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Characters: Narrator, Jesus

Narrator: Jesus said to his disciples,

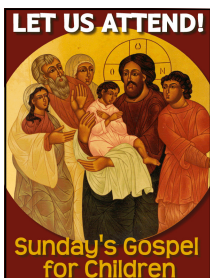
Jesus: You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

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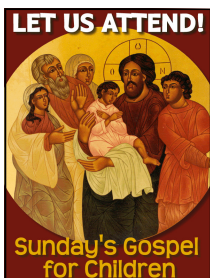
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. How does one let his or her light shine before others?
2. What good works did your patron saint do?
3. Did these works cause others to give glory to the Father in heaven?
4. Do they cause you to glorify God? Why or why not?
5. What does this suggest about how we can share our faith with others?
6. What can you do this week to be a light to the world?



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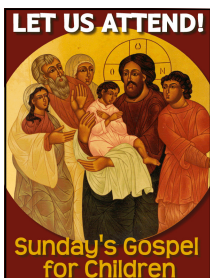
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Earlier in Matthew we can read that Jesus is addressing the disciples in this passage. What do the disciples know about Jesus that other people do not know?
2. What did they do with that knowledge after Jesus' death and resurrection?
3. What do you think Jesus meant when he told them: “You are the light of the world?”
4. What light have the disciples given us?
5. Once we have the light do we share anything in common with the disciples?
6. If Jesus told the disciples to put their light on a lamp stand, what would Jesus tell us to do with the light we have received? How does this gospel tell us we can do that?



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