

Announcements

Want to keep up on what's going on around here? Drop your info card in the offering plate and we'll add you to the e-newsletter list.

Halloween Fund Raiser

Interested in helping with our annual Pregnancy Resource Center Halloween Fundraiser? Contact Brytt Keel - 360-621-8111 or bkeel@strategyrealestate.net

Foundations Class starting November 1st!**Communities:**

This is where we gather to pray, study and encourage one another as part of the missional work of the Gospel. We would love to get to know you more, and this is one of the best ways to get planted as a part of Seaside.

Please consider joining a Community to strengthen the not only your family, but the larger community.

Contact

eric@seasidechurch.com for info on where groups meet or to lead/host one.

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What is this light you ask? Truthfully, this is a 400 level idea that makes sense in light of a 100 level class - so let's start with another question - **why do we need light?** The answer is found in Romans 1.18-32.

The primary issue here is that man worships self rather than the One who created him. This is what it means to love darkness - to love self and all the desires that come with that. That puts him in the league and dominion of Satan rather than God. Great. So the world is in darkness, and it needs to be in the light. That doesn't answer the original question. For that we need to go over to John 1.1-13 and 2 Corinthians 4. Simply put -

Light = Life/Salvation whereas **Darkness = Death/Destruction**

Verses 14-16 use **you** and **are** in the same way we saw them used in regard to salt in v.13. But the order (salt then light) here is very important. Martyn Lloyd-Jones puts this in two different ways - we **are** something before we begin to **act** as something & Scripture always emphasizes first who the saved sinner **is** before it talks about what he **does**. *We must be careful not to reverse the order.* We preserve the wounds of the world as salt until, if God wills, the Great Healer comes to make that wound whole. **The Light's purpose is to primarily do two things - expose the darkness wherever it exists, and to show the way out.** It is for this reason that Jesus declares that He is the Light of the World, and those who follows Him will not walk in darkness anymore, but will **have the Light of Life** (Jn 8.12; 1 Jn 1.5-7). And in *having*, he will also be, inherently, Light.

We are not primarily dealing with a physical light here, but rather a spiritual one (Jn 12.35-46). This means that the light must shine not so much **by us** as **through us**. This does not disregard the need to be a witness *verbally* of the Light (*Paul in Acts 26.17-23*), but the actual work is done because He opens their eyes (*Lydia in Acts 16.14*) and leads the way home (Eph 1.15.23; 2 Tim 1.10). **How does that look practically in our community and lives?**

Our lives are used physically as a result of **who we are in Christ**, according to 5.16 (Jn 1.7-9; 2 Cor 2.14-17). That means that, in turn, that our core fight, our greatest struggle, in this work will be spiritual (Eph 6.10-20; Rom 13.11-13). This because those in darkness, like their father, hate the light (Jn 3.20-21).

And what happens if we can see no evidence of this light in our lives? Or we find ourselves hating the Light & it's work in our lives? Well, we need to first look at and be warned by passages like Luke 11.33-36 and Isaiah 50.10-11. If we are using God to love & worship "self", how great the darkness must be in us. Even though the Light is very near, it has no real impact. That's a very desperate place to be, for they are like a people without a homeland - the world does not want us, and they have no place before the throne of God. But they have not been left stranded - Ephesians 5 is clear on what must be done, and why it is so important to be in the Light.

We are the salt of the earth, preserving the wounds and decay through who we are in Christ, as lights in the world, *distinctive* and *involved*, until the Great Healer, comes and brings them out of darkness into the Light of Life.