



**PEEPLS VALLEY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Together we are becoming!
One Spirit



THE MARK OF THE SHINE
SERMON SERIES: THE CROSS MARKS THE SPOT_02
MARCH 1, 2020 / 5 ADAR 5780 SUNDAY AM

Matthew 5:14-16 KJV

¹⁴ You are the Light of the world (*we are a reflector of the Light which comes from Christ*). A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid (*proper light will not, and in fact, cannot be hid*).

¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick (*the light is not to be hid*); and it gives light unto all who are in the house (*that is the purpose of the light*).

¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works (*proper Faith will always produce proper works, but proper works will never produce proper Faith*), and glorify your Father which is in Heaven (*proper works will glorify our Heavenly Father, while improper works glorify man*).

INTRODUCTION

Our Purpose is to be formed to the Image of Christ. **We look at life like a map or a journey like the pilgrim's progress. The Cross started our destination on our Journey and marks the spot. Our destination will always be Christ. It's important that we follow that destination. Christ not only calls us to discipleship but also Evangelism. Sharing our Faith. That marks our destination towards that place. Our Christian Life is a Journey. The Cross marks the spot where Jesus should always be in our life. Jesus is no longer hanging on the Cross, but it was on the Cross that started our Journey of Purpose for Him in our Lives. Christ is our Treasure and we are on a Journey to find a treasure of Purpose and Discipleship. The Cross marks the Spot for our treasure to begin in our Lives. Discipleship is a lifelong journey, and it's easy to get sidetracked and lose our sense of direction along the way.**

This series will challenge believers to keep their gaze fixed on Jesus, the **"Cross"** on their discipleship map.

As we take a closer look at what it means

- to follow him,
- to be united with him,
- to be commissioned by him, and
- to become more like him,

we'll discover that being a faithful disciple is about far more than just the steps we take toward Jesus. Rather, if "The cross marks the spot," then being a disciple is about an unrelenting passion for discovering the Person at the center of it all Our heavenly father.

"What is the Cross Marks the Spot about?" It is about life of a true disciple who is following Jesus. Why do we call it "The Cross Marks the Spot"? Because, without question the shadow of the cross looms over the entire New Testament. The cross dominates the New Testament. When you read the biography of Jesus one-third of those biographies talk about His death and

His crucifixion.

Jesus should be the passion of our life, because of the cross. If Jesus had such passion for us that He was willing to die on the cross, we should have such passion for Him that we are willing to live under the cross as one of His disciples.

IS THE MARK OF YOUR SHINE ON?

I. Do I _____ the Light Within Me?

A. _____ with your light

II. Do I _____ the Light Before Me?

A. _____ your light

III. Do I _____ the Light Beyond Me?

A. _____ with your light

Conclusion

Listen. We can't all be preachers or teachers, but we can all see the light within us, show the light before us, and shine the light beyond us. It is time for many of us to come out of the closet. We need to take our light out from under the bowl we have been hiding it under and put it on a lampstand where everybody can see it. **Dr. D. James Kennedy** was a great pastor of a church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and was the founder of the evangelism program known as "Evangelism Explosion." He told the story of being interviewed on a television station in a large American city by a young woman who was the co-anchor for the local evening news. He said she asked him several questions about living the Christian life in a secular culture. Near the end of the interview, she said, "There are a lot of people watching right now who don't really know what a Christian is or what **you** mean when **you** talk about being 'born again'. Why don't **you** explain that to them right now?" **Dr. Kennedy** was shocked, but he took advantage of the opportunity and explained what it meant to get out of spiritual darkness and come to the light of Jesus Christ and except Him as Lord and Savior. They broke for a commercial. He said as the newswoman and he were talking he said to her, "Are **you** sure this station is going to run this interview?" I can't believe that **you** just allowed me to share God's Plan of Salvation on this newscast. She smiled and said, "We just ran it. This is a live telecast." **Dr. Kennedy** He said, "Well, in that case, **you** might better be looking for a new job, because **you** may get fired." She laughed and said, "I won't be fired. I'll tell **you** why later, because we are back on in 10 seconds." When they came back from the commercial break and finished the interview and after the program was over, she said, "**Dr. Kennedy, let me tell you** why I am not worried about my job." She said, "Do **you** see that man over there behind the camera? **Five years ago, I led him to Jesus.** My co-anchor, who is in the studio right now helping with this broadcast, **I led him to Jesus three years ago.** The station manager who makes the final decision on all the things we broadcast - **I led him to Jesus two years ago.** The owner of the station - **I led him to Jesus four years ago.** **You** see, I'm not worried about losing my job. In fact, I would be worried about losing my job if I had not given **you** the chance to shine **your** light." Now that is what I am talking about. **You** cannot be light on the outside, until **you** have light on the inside, and everybody in this world, is either in the light, or they are in the dark. Jesus came to die on a cross for our sins, to take care of the darkness of sin and death, and came out of the grave three days later, so He could be to us the light of the world.

IS THE MARK OF YOUR SHINE ON? If it is not, it can be today.

1. See A. Shine 3. Show A. Show 2. See A. Shine