

THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

“Let your light shine.”

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about *the light*, that all might believe through him. He was not *the light*, but came to bear witness about *the light*. *The true light*, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. John 1:6-9

The people who walked in darkness have seen *a great light*; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has *light* shined. Isa. 9:2

“I am *the light* of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have *the light* of life.” John 8:12

“As long as I am in the world, I am *the light* of the world.” John 9:5

“You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

“before others”

“A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.” Matthew 5:14-15

“so that they may see your good works”

“I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”

Acts 26:17-18

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

Work for the night is coming, work through the morning hours;
Work while the dew is sparkling, work ‘mid springing flowers..
Work when the day grows brighter, work in the glowing sun;

Work for the night is coming, when man's work is done.

“and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

“to him be glory in the church”

“...that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.” Eph. 3:10

“We are the first ray of light breaking through into the darkness of a disordered and fractured universe. We are the first sign of a new dawn. The night of Satan's reign is fading. In C. S. Lewis's vivid imagery, the snows of the White Witch's winter are melting in Narnia. The church is an outpost of heaven. We are heaven on earth.”
(Tim Chester and Steve Timmis, Total Church, p. 67)