

BE A BLESSING: Be a Light Carrier!

Scripture used: [Psalms 27:1-2 \(NIV\)](#); [Mark 5:25-42 \(NIV\)](#)

OVERVIEW

In a time filled with grief, violence, and division—highlighted by recent tragedies like the assassination of Charlie Kirk and the Evergreen school shooting—Jesus calls us to become “light carriers.” Today’s message made clear that being a Christian during these dark times means more than personal salvation. Being a Christian means becoming a force for healing and unity in a fractured world. Referencing Psalm 27, we’re reminded that even King David faced dark times. He was being hunted by Saul as a youth and many years later, betrayed by his own son Absalom. During these trials, David chose to look to the Lord as his light and salvation.

In this cultural moment defined by fear, outrage, and division, the Church has a powerful counter-witness: the *Jesus Way*. This way of living doesn’t seek vindication or domination. It seeks restoration. It critiques its own tribe before condemning others. It rejoices in “the other.” It listens more than it speaks. And above all, it shines light into the dark. As Jesus said in [Matthew 5:14 \(NIV\)](#), “You are the light of the world.”

KEY POINTS

1. **We are living in dark times.** Our world feels increasingly heavy with grief, fear, and division. Events like the assassination of Charlie Kirk, the assassination of former Minnesota politician Melissa Hortman, and the Evergreen school tragedy reveal a deeper crisis. We’ve become a “me-centered” society—obsessed with winning arguments and seeking vindication. The belief that *my* victory requires *your* loss has taken root. Fear and distrust now dominate our relationships and our politics. And yet, Scripture teaches us to name this darkness honestly. David, overwhelmed by fear and betrayal, didn’t hide his emotions. He brought them before God. Psalm 27 reflects that posture—a declaration of faith in the middle of chaos, not after it.
2. **There is good news in dark times.** Even in moments of heartbreak and fear, God remains on the throne. He is not distant or indifferent. Psalm 27:1–2 proclaims, “The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?” David wrote these words in a place of real danger, yet chose to trust God as his source of strength. In Mark 5:36, Jesus tells a grieving father, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” That invitation is still open. God has already conquered death. He has the final word. And that word is not judgment—it is love. His presence gives us peace, and His promise gives us purpose, even when our circumstances are shaking.
3. **Be a light by following the Jesus Way.** Jesus offers a path forward that goes beyond partisanship and polarization. The Jesus Way begins with humility—we must examine our own hearts before judging others (Luke 18:11–12). Then we learn to celebrate the humanity of those we differ with (Luke 18:13–14), and we choose empathy over outrage (James 1:19–20). Jesus invites us to mourn with those who suffer, as He did at Lazarus’ tomb (John 11:32–34). This is how we carry His light. Not through winning arguments, but by showing up with grace. When we pray, give, and serve in His name, we push back the darkness and offer the world a better way.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - When you think about your daily life, where do you notice opportunities to bring light instead of adding to the darkness?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - What does it look like to carry the light in a culture addicted to outrage? What would change if we led with empathy and practiced radical reconciliation?
In Mark 5:36, Jesus tells Jairus, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” What does it look like for us to live out that command when fear and division dominate our culture, and how might our belief become a light for others who are walking through darkness?
- 3) **DO** - Start each morning with a prayer: “*Lord, make me a blessing today.*” Then look for two or three opportunities to be that blessing—through listening, encouragement, or simple presence.