

Weekly Services Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Sun. Day/Evening Groups Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

<u>ELDERS</u> Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS Education: Finance: Tom Hill Outreach: Mark Whittaker

<u>AREAS OF SERVICE</u> Building: Ken Vogtman Custodian: Hannah McKee Fellowship: Joe/Carrie Bieren Grounds: Cody/Doyle Dawes Sing Ministry: Timauri Stearns Secretary: Renee Hill Technology: Eric Kjorness Technology: Cody Dawes

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FB: Class & Sermons online Check email notification

Monthly Service Schedules: Posted in the foyer. Please find a replacement if you will be gone.

Lewiston Church of Christ January 22, 2023



Out in the Open

Mark 4 is full of "growth" parables. One exception is the parable of the lamp on its stand. Growth can happen in secret but lamps are useless under cover. Jesus preached:

• "A lamp is not brought to be put under a basket, is it, or under a bed? Is it not *brought* to be put on the lampstand? For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has *anything* been secret, but that it would come to light." (Mark 4:21-222)

God's truth and love were never meant to be confined to secrecy. Lamps are needed out in the open, and not just for yourself but for all who walk with you or around you. People need to see it! Jesus taught:

 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16).

It's not about showing off. It's about getting the love of Christ that abides within you outside of your heart and into the view of those who need to see it. Ultimately, it's about glorifying the Father of light.

Darkness simply cannot overcome light. Evil loves darkness and hates light. Jesus' role as our Redeemer was to drag evil into the light—screaming and kicking. They killed him for it but could not turn off the light. He rose again.

Following Jesus, we are like lamps. Shine; sooner, not later! Live out in the open. In the end, everything hidden will be uncovered anyway. Get out of the shadows and bask in the light of truth. Let your lamp (God's light) shine for all to see. What do you have to lose?

Joel Solliday