

LWML–Canada Sunday 2010
Children’s Message
Shine like stars – in your community of faith

(Have a bright flashlight or laser-light ready and call all the children forward to the chancel).

Do you remember Daniel who was thrown into the lions' den? He was thrown into the lions' den because he refused to worship the king and continued to worship God. Well, God sent an angel to keep the mouths of the hungry lions closed so they could not eat Daniel.

God gave Daniel a revelation in which He told Daniel about all those who believed going to heaven, and God told Daniel, **“And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever”** (Daniel 12:3).

In that passage God was telling Daniel about you and me shining like stars forever and ever before God’s throne in heaven.

Until that happens Jesus says, (Matthew 5:14-16) **“¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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.”**

So Jesus tells us to shine like stars. To shine like stars it is helpful to know a little bit about stars. The dictionary says that a star is a big ball of really thick gas that produces bright light.

Do you know what the closest star to the earth is? It’s the sun. Did you know that most of the time light is invisible? (Shine the light so that it reflects off something visible), Do you see the light? Now look between the source of the light and the reflection. Do you see any light? Because we can’t see it doesn’t mean it isn’t there. (Put your hand in front of the light). Look at that. Now you can see light reflecting off of my hand.

There are only two places you can see light – at the source (the flashlight) – and when light reflects off an object.

Jesus is called the Light of the world. He is the light. He shines like the stars. In Matthew 14:16 Jesus says, **“¹⁶ 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.”** We are to be a star for Jesus and let our light shine so that others may see it and give glory to our Father in heaven.

Light travels at 300,000 kms per second. That is really fast. Do you know how far it is to the moon? The moon is 384,000 kms away from us. That is a long way but it takes light just a little more than one second to travel all that way. Can you say “one, one thousand two”? Say it with

me. "One, one thousand two." That's how long it takes light to reflect the sun's light to us. That is fast.

Jesus says we are to shine like the sun and our light will go out that fast.

Now we need to know one more thing. How do we become a star? The Bible says (2 Corinthians 4:6), "For God, who said, '**Let light shine out of darkness,**' **has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**" Jesus, the Light of the world has come into our hearts and made us His light. Now when did that happen? When we were baptized Jesus came into our hearts and made us one of His lights.

Jesus said, (Luke 11:33) "**No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light.**" So Jesus has made us His light so that we can shine like a star.

Remember the song, "This little light of mine? Join with me and let your light shine as we sing it together.

This Little Light of Mine (public domain)

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

Don't let Satan blow it out,
I'm gonna let it shine
Don't let Satan blow it out,
I'm gonna let it shine
Don't let Satan blow it out,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,

Let it shine,
Let it shine.

Shine all over
[name of town]
I'm gonna let it shine
Shine all over
[name of town]
I'm gonna let it shine
Shine all over
[name of town]
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

Let it shine 'til Jesus comes,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine,
Let it shine,
Let it shine.

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