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The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5 (NIV)

Thought for today...

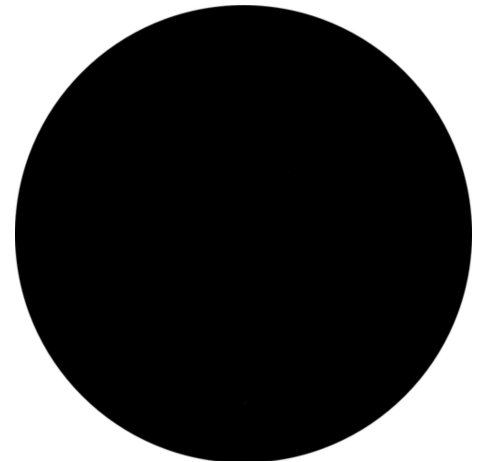
The absence of light or illumination will result in darkness; darkness disappears when light appears. As followers of Christ, when we step into darkness, what is the outcome?

Do we bring light to the darkness? Do we use God's Word in our mouths to illuminate conversations? Do situations and atmospheres change when we are present?

'When Moses came down Mount Sinai carrying the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant, he wasn't aware that his face had become radiant because he had spoken to the LORD.'
Exodus 34:29 (New Living Translation).

After spending time in God's presence, Moses' countenance literally shone! As a result of spending time in God's presence daily, we are afforded various opportunities to illuminate and bring light to the world around us.

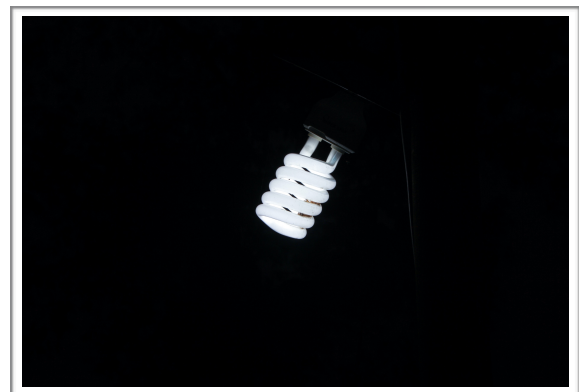
As believers in Jesus we are reminded that He said: "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14 (New King James Version).



Do we use God's Word in our mouths to illuminate conversations? We know that the words that we say are very powerful (Proverbs 18:21). In addition, Proverbs 10:11 tells us that **‘The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life...’** (English Standard Version).

The Word in our mouths can bring light to others as we declare the truth. When we know the truth of a matter, it illuminates and brings light to the situation. John 3:16 reminds us of the truth of the gospel: **‘For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.’** (NKJV).

Do situations and atmospheres change when we are present? We read in Acts 16:25-34 (NIV) that this was the case with Paul and Silas: **‘About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose.’** Having witnessed this miraculous sight, the jailer asked **“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”** They replied, **“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household.”** Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.’



The darkness in the jail disappeared because Paul and Silas brought light to the situation. As a result, the jailer was filled with joy because he and his whole family had come to believe in God.

Are you a light in the darkness?...