TOPIC: LET IT SHOW!

Share Jesus by letting others see how He has changed your life.

KEY POINTS

- There are many things we tell people about ourselves without words being spoken. They may see your
  - stethoscope
  - engineering ring
  - team jacket
  - engagement ring
  - new 'first off the line' cell phone
  - police officer uniform, etc.
- Although we may be hesitant to speak to strangers, we have no problem speaking to our friends. We ask our friends questions and they ask questions of us, especially if we see something new or different in each other.
- If the Lord has changed our lives, we must let it show! This is not something to 'hide under a bushel', but something that should be readily evident to those around us.
- There is a narrative in John 9 that really should be read in its entirety, it's that good.
- Jesus healed a man who was born blind, after he had spent his life as a beggar. After Jesus healed him, everybody started talking! His neighbours and others who knew him asked: "Isn't this the guy we used to see begging at the temple?" Some said: "Yes – it's him!" Others said: "Looks like him, but it can't possibly be him!" Then the ex-blind man said: "It's me! It's me! I can see!"
- Having been touched so dramatically by Jesus, he was not shy, nor did he hide his miracle. His friends and neighbours well remembered the opaque, sightless mass that represented his eyes. Now there were bright, clear, seeing eyes, all because of Jesus. The amazement spread to the Pharisees in the temple and to his parents.
- And he continued to display his miracle and share Jesus.
- You may think that your story is not nearly as dramatic as this, but it *is* dramatic to those who knew you before Jesus came into your life. You are no longer
  - stealing as you used to
  - lying to cover wrongdoing
  - cheating and committing fraudulent acts
  - lashing out at others with an abusive tongue
  - living in fear and depression
  - living a selfish, self-absorbed life
- Or… whatever the change or miracle may be.
- If you will 'let it show', people around you will be amazed at the transformation in your life and want to know what happened to you.
- This is God's will for us – that we let His light shine through us.
- *We* have the privilege of being lamps that light the way for others to come to Christ.
- It is time for us to cast the bushel basket aside so those around us can see the amazing work of God in our lives.
- LET IT SHOW!

KEY SCRIPTURES

Luke 8:26-39; John 9

DISCUSSION TOOLS

1. Discuss impressions people can give by the way they appear (clothing/self-decoration, speech, observable actions, etc.).
2. Personal reflection: If you saw yourself coming toward you, what might you be thinking based on your appearance, expression, and/or past interactions?
3. As a group, discuss what Christians need to remember in order to truly "show" that they are new creatures in Christ (the epistles of the apostles are good references to use for this).
4. Personal reflection: So now others have begun to ask you about the difference(s) they see in you. Are you ready to give an answer (cf. 1 Peter 3:15)?
5. If time permits for role-playing, try it out – ask each other questions that might arise when others see a Christian's godly character showing. See if you are "ready with an answer" and help each other to be prepared.

Notes

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Prayer Time

Lord, please let my life declare that you are the centre of it. Let my world see You in and through me, in Jesus' name, amen.