Date: 2/18/17 (Original 4/30/83)

Title: Shining for Jesus

Theme: Until Jesus comes into our hearts, we have no power to shine for Him.

Object: LED flashlight with removable battery pack.

Text: Matt 5:14-16 (NKJV) “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

How many of you have ever been afraid of the dark?

Do you like to sleep in a room that is completely dark or do you like to have a night light on?

When you turn on a light, even a little one, the darkness goes away and you’re not afraid anymore.

The Bible has a lot to say about light and darkness.

The Bible says that people who don’t know Jesus are in darkness. It’s like they’re in a dark room.

But the Bible says that Jesus is like a light.

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

The Bible says that Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot put it out.

So Jesus represents the light, and Satan represents the darkness.

But the verses we read this morning say that YOU are the light of the world.

How can YOU be the light of the world if JESUS is the light of the world? (I’ll try to explain that in a minute)

Jesus says that you have a light and He wants you to let it shine.

Do you remember the song we sing in SS? “This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine…”

Hey, you know what I brought with me in the bag today? It’s a little LED flashlight.

It’s just a little light. You don’t have to be big to let your light shine for Jesus.

Now I’m going to push the button on the end to turn the light on. There! Is my light shining bright for Jesus? No???

What could the problem be with this light? It looks good on the outside, but there is no light coming out?

Do you think we should check what’s on the inside?

Look!! It’s empty. No wonder it can’t make any light. There’s no batteries! It has no power!

Fortunately, I have here the battery pack. It contains three triple A batteries, Father Son, and Holy Spirit.

This empty flashlight is YOU, and the battery pack is JESUS.

Without Jesus, your life is full of darkness, sin, and evil. You have no power to shine for Jesus.

But when you invite Jesus to come into your heart, He can forgive your sins and give you a new heart.

With Jesus in your heart, you have the power to shine for Him.

That’s how JESUS can be the Light of the world, and YOU can be the light of the world, because Jesus shines through you.

You and Jesus can shine together.

How many want to have Jesus in their heart so your light will shine for Him?