

FOCUS
Cultural Issue

TITLE
Let It Shine

REFERENCE
Philippians 2:14

• brown merit •

Philippians

... LESSON 5

• FOR THE LEADER

• PREP



FOR THE LEADER

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

The people around us are in desperate need of direction. Sin has many of them lost in darkness, and we have been called to shine the light of Jesus to help them out. Our life should be a daily reflection of Jesus that leads others toward Him.

THINK ABOUT IT:

- What difference does it make how we live our life?
- Does the way we live, act, and talk rightly reflect the God we serve?
- Would my daily life lead someone toward or away from Jesus?



PREP

- place to observe constellations
- constellation chart (optional)

• *Notes* •

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Philippians

... LESSON 5

· READ



· REFLECT



· RESPOND



READ

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life. Philippians 2:14

Imagine you are lost in the woods on a clear summer night. You lost track of time on a nature hike, and now you are lost without a compass, GPS, phone, or any other method of navigation or communication. All you know is that you are south of the main town or highway. How do you find your way back? Where would you look for direction?

We live in a spiritually dark world. Many people around us live in a constant state of darkness by living in sin. This spiritual darkness has left them without hope or direction. Daily they search for a “north star” in their life to show them the way out. That is where we as believers can help. It is up to us to reflect the light of Jesus and point others to Him.

We are called to live in a way that stands out against the darkness of the world and leads others to the light. At a glance, they should see something different about us. Our lifestyle, beliefs, values, and behavior should stand out

from the world around us. Instead of complaining or arguing, we should be full of thankfulness and love. Instead of allowing ourselves to be crude or perverted, we should try to be pure and blameless. If we refuse to pattern ourselves after society and choose to reflect Jesus, we can truly become “like stars in the universe” and lead others from their darkness to His light.

We may think that living this way is impossible, but we have an example to follow. Jesus never grumbled or complained once during His execution. Out of obedience to His Father, He freely gave himself to be beaten, made fun of, and crucified. He never complained about the beatings. He didn’t scream about how unfair it was that He was being crucified. He just did what God asked Him to do because He knew how important His mission was.

Our mission, to be “like stars in the universe” as we hold out the word of life, is greatly affected by our attitude. If we have a right attitude and don’t grumble and complain even during the hard times, then more people will want to know Jesus. If we have the right attitude, people will want to hear what we have to say!

PRAYER: Dear God, let my life be a bright reflection of You. Help me to stand out from the sinfulness of society. Let my life be one that draws others to know and follow You. In the name of Jesus, Amen.



REFLECT

If time and weather permit, go outside and work as a patrol to identify as many constellations as you can. Try to identify at least the Big Dipper, Little Dipper and the North Star. If you meet in the day or conditions do not permit, look through a constellation chart and discuss the various constellations that are visible in your night sky.



RESPOND

Try to go an entire week without complaining or arguing. Be sure to keep track of your progress throughout the week. For extra accountability, ask someone at home to help keep you on track.

In addition to keeping track of your progress and struggles, take note of the difference it has on those around you. Do they notice a change? Do they respond better to you? Have things been more peaceful at home and school? Come to the next meeting prepared to discuss your experiment.

7-DAY BIBLE READING PLAN
Sunday ·
Monday ·
Tuesday ·
Wednesday ·
Thursday ·
Friday ·
Saturday ·

The *Fire Bible: Student Edition* provides a reading plan that follows a two-year design for reading the entire Bible. Follow that reading plan in order to earn the green Bible Reading merit.

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