

Saturday, January 30, 2021

By Michelle Bauman

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. 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." ~ Matthew 5:14-16

You Are Indispensable

Ever played flashlight tag? It's basically hide-and-seek in the dark. The seeker uses a flashlight to shine light on those she finds; then they help her locate others still hiding in the darkness.

Flashlight tag was, by far, my favorite game when I was growing up. Whether squeezing in behind a bush or climbing a tree in the light of the moon, I loved the hiding — the process of becoming temporarily invisible. Even more, though, I loved the finding. Giddy over the prospect of being revealed, I eagerly awaited the flashlight's beam.

Why? I'm not exactly sure. Perhaps the game served as proof that I was needed, proof that I was worth searching for, proof that I would be missed if I stayed in the darkness.

And isn't that something we all need to be certain of? To know we are loved and valued and sought after in a world that says the opposite?

Like the seeker in flashlight tag, Christ, the light of the world, sought you. He found you huddled in the darkness of sin and carried you to safety. He made you His brother in the waters of Baptism; you're on His team now.

And as you daily die to self and live for Him, you confess Christ through your words and deeds (Galatians 2:20 and 2 Corinthians 5:17). In fact, because of Christ's work, you have even become a light to the world (Matthew 5:14). You carry His flashlight; you are a messenger of LIFE.

We end this week right where we began: God has made you indispensable. Rejoice! Though once broken in sin, you have been made perfect in Christ!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for making me a light in the world. Help me to share Your light and life with others. Amen.