

**GO DEEPER**

**SPECIAL WORDS**

**JESUS**  
**(POINT UP)**  
**SHINES**  
**(HOLD UP BOTH FINGERS)**

**MEMORY VERSE**

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." **John 14:6 (NLT)**

**DAILY DEVOTIONS**

**DAY 1: JESUS SHINES**

*READ - Matthew 5:1-12, 16*

If it is dark, and you need to see, what do you do? Turn on a light! In the book of Matthew we read where Jesus taught about what it looks like to shine with His light. When we disobey by doing what we want, instead of what Jesus teaches, it is like being in the dark (*turn the lights off.*) But when we choose to obey Jesus by obeying what is in the Bible we are shining like a light (*turn the light on.*) Jesus wants to shine through you! **Remember: Jesus Shines**

**DAY 2: SHINE HUMILITY**

*READ - Matthew 5:5*

Choose a few simple activities, like going from one room to another, or getting a snack, that you can do with your child. As you do say to your child, "Me first!" and you do it first. After a few times of saying, "Me first!" ask your child how it made them feel when you didn't let them go first. Shining the light of Jesus means putting others first. How can you put others first today? Demonstrate by choosing a new activity and let your child go first. **Remember: Jesus Shines**

**DAY 3: SHINE MERCY**

*READ - Matthew 5:7, 38-39*

What are some things that a friend might do that is not nice? How do you feel when someone is unkind to you? Jesus wants us to show other's love and forgiveness in all situations. Jesus' light can shine through you when you forgive someone who has done the wrong thing. Practice obeying Jesus by saying, "I forgive you," when someone does something that makes you sad or mad. **Remember: Jesus Shines**

**DAY 4: SHINE LOVE**

*READ - Matthew 5:43-44, 47*

Think of all the different people in the world. Tall people, short people, old people, children, babies, all the people. Jesus loves them all! How can you show love to someone who is grumpy? How can you show love to someone who is sad? How can you show love to someone who is being unkind? How can you show love to someone who is tired? Shining the light of Jesus means showing God's love to everyone! **Remember: Jesus Shines**

**DAY 5: CHOOSE TO SHINE**

*READ - Matthew 5:14-16*

Go to a light switch and let your child practice turning it on and off. When we think about lights, they often have a switch to turn them on and off easily. When we think about living like Jesus teaches us, we sometimes act like we have a switch that we can just turn on and off whenever we want. But that doesn't work. When we don't obey Jesus, we are "switching the light off" and choosing to sin, or do wrong things. Sin brings darkness instead of light. Choose to obey Jesus and keep your light "on!" **Remember: Jesus Shines**



## THIS LITTLE LIGHT

*Materials: plastic light bulb, white/yellow/orange paper*

Cut your paper into 1" squares. Then, think of ways you can let your light shine for others to see. Next, take 1 square of paper, write/draw your idea on the paper, crumple it, and place it inside your light bulb. See if you can come up with enough ideas to fill your entire light bulb!

Thankfully, Jesus doesn't expect us to be able to live like this on our own. When we trust Him with our lives, He changes our hearts and His light shines through us!



## SHINE THROUGH

*Materials: Bibles, clear cup, vegetable oil, salt, water colored dark with food coloring*

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus teaches us that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Do you think you can let the light of Jesus' love bubble up and shine through you? Do a simple science experiment to see how that might happen.

1. Pour vegetable oil into your cup until it is about 1/2-inch deep.
2. Pick up your cup and look at the oil. The oil is clear enough to see through. Walk your cup over to a window or hold it carefully up to the light. The oil catches the light, making it seem brighter and clearer.

Take a moment and read Matthew 5:13-16. When have you seen someone shine with Jesus' love?

3. Carefully pour a 1/4-inch layer of salt on top of the oil.

Jesus talked about salt. Salt adds flavor to whatever food it touches. Think how much flavor salt adds to the flavor of French fries or pretzels. How do God's people add "flavor" to the world? Sometimes we feel like being selfish or getting back at people who've made us mad. When all those nasty, selfish feelings come to the top, they dim God's loving light in our lives. The water represents our selfishness.

4. Carefully pour water down the inside of your cup so you don't disturb the layer of salt at the bottom. Keep filling your cup with water until it's almost full.
5. Watch and observe bubbles of "light" (oil) break through the salt crust and rise to the surface of your cup.

When we pray and ask God to "sink" our selfish feelings, his love rises to the top. We need God's help to shine for him. No matter how hard we try to be like Jesus we can't do that on our own. But when we ask God to help us, He changes our hearts—then Jesus shines through us as a light in a dark world. This week, ask God to help you shine for Jesus!



## CUDDLE CLOSE

*Materials: None*

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus shines and I can too!" As you tuck them into bed sing, "This Little Light of Mine." ([www.tinyurl.com/little-light](http://www.tinyurl.com/little-light)) Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

*Dear God,  
Thank you that Jesus shines. Help me to obey Jesus so He can shine through me!  
In Jesus' name, Amen.*

# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

Things I like to do:

My Talents:

How can I serve God through my talents & interests:

At school:

At church:

At home:

Around my friends:

In my community:

Extra ways I would love to serve God: