

## **Street Lights**

**(Matthew 4:15-17)**

As I was driving home this evening, I began to think about all of the things God has provided in my life, and the countless times I have neglected to thank Him. So I started to recollect the things that I take for granted. My mouth began to move and I heard my own voice thanking God for all kinds of things, such as, safe travel, our home, jobs we enjoy, a bed to sleep in each night, great food, friends that care about us, and on & on. How many times have I chosen not to be grateful for these things that God has been consistent in providing, or routinely offer a lukewarm &/or heartless prayer of thanks?

As I neared the exit to turn towards home, still in an attitude of thanks, I saw several street lights that illuminated the street. I found myself thanking God for the street lights, because they help us to see much clearer as we travel to various destinations. Then it hit me—Jesus is our Light. He shines into the very dark places in our lives and exposes those “yucky” things that we like to ignore or hide.

Just this week, He has done just that in my life. Many dark areas were exposed, causing me to question my possible lack of surrender. You won't believe what I saw! There they were in plain sight: jealousy, finding worth from people rather than God, impatience, and lack of love for people. No more hiding or pretending like “all is good” with me.

Jesus wants no dark places in my life—He wants me to be a light in a very dark place. Repentance and a request for grace is the cry on my lips. I want what Jesus wants for me...more of Him, and less of me.

Have you thanked God for the street lights lately? May you invite Him in to illuminate the dark places that only He can fill with His Light!