Dr. Eddie Ildefonso Carry the Light

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John 1:1-9

John 1:1-9 (NASB)

¹ "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

⁵ The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

⁶ There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷ He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.

⁹ There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man."

In the Bible, light is equated with good. For instance, Jesus called Himself light—He said, "I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness" (John 12:46 NASB).

In contrast, the world we live in is dark (John 3:19).

John 3:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil."

However, once we trust Jesus as our Savior, He lives within us through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Therefore, when we're saved, we have the light with us (John 8:12).

John 8:12 (NASB)

¹² "Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, He instructed His followers to "make disciples of all the nations" (<u>Matthew 28:19-20</u>).

Matthew 28:19-20 (NASB)

¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

This charge, known as the Great Commission, still applies. In other words, Christians must carry the light to a dark world. But how do we do this?

Here are *three ways*.

• God will send some of us abroad to share the truth of Jesus Christ. There are people in other countries who have never heard how to receive salvation, and we can go as missionaries to tell them.

• The Father also calls Christians to spread the good news of the gospel right where they are—in their neighborhoods, families, and workplaces.

• The Lord asks His followers to give of the resources He's provided—whether money, talents, or gifts—so His message of salvation can be shared with the world.

Are you willing to tell others about Jesus in whatever way the Lord has in mind? Ask God how He would like you to shine His light into the world. Then be available and obedient to carry out His plan.