

Partly Cloudy

Step 4 – We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Step 10 – We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.

Sometimes in life we are not seeing things clearly. We believe we are, but in reality we are not seeing clearly at all. This could be due to our eyesight as in physical things, or wrong belief systems with regards to our faith in Christ, misunderstandings in relationships, and so on. We can even believe that some things are authentic, while they are really only an imitation of the real thing. They may even give us the sense of being real, but can never be the real thing, i.e., off brand products, etc.

John 1:1-13 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. 3 All 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.** 10 **He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.** 11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 8:12 *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.***

1 John 1:5 *This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and **in Him there is no darkness at all.***

Many did not recognize or receive Jesus (as the light), even with him being among them.

John 3:19 *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.*

Matthew 5:13-16 *You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. 14 **You are the light of the world.** A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; 15 **nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.** 16 **Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.***

Luke 11:33 *No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.*

Matthew 6: 22 ***The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.*** 23 ***But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness.***

34 ***The eye is the lamp of your body; when your eye is clear, your whole body also is full of light; but when it is bad, your body also is full of darkness. [The connection between the external (eye and light) coming through to the inward (body); similar to Matthew 6 passage.]***

If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

35 ***Then watch out that the light in you is not darkness.*** 36 ***If therefore your whole body is full of light, with no dark part in it, it will be wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays.***

[The inside will be as lit as the outside] Remember, Jesus is light, in him there is no darkness **(1 John 1:5)**

Partly Cloudy

- Can a person truly believe something is light when it's actually darkness?
- **What could light darkness be?**
 1. Possessions – Matthew's passage seems to be referring to treasures, or worries were clouding their eyesight so that they were not seeing the light.
 2. Worry - lack of trust - darkness or lack of light can trigger worry. We can't see the truth, comfort or provision of God.
 3. Unbelief – In Luke's passage it seems Jesus was referring to the people's unbelief, refusal to repent and follow him. They were blinded by their deeply engrained belief systems. In this conversation Jesus made several references to the Old Testament stories, such as Jonah, etc.
 4. Legalism
 5. Demonic? Paul seemed to have the understanding that Satan masquerades as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14) Satan's light?
- If light is filtered coming in it is also filtered going out as well. We are not displaying the entire light if we are not receiving the entire light. Think of not being full of light and being asked to give light, i.e., advice, counsel, encouragement, etc.
- A person could have a small amount of darkness or a great amount.

Acts 22:6-8 *"But it happened that as I was on my way, approaching Damascus about noontime, a very bright light suddenly flashed from heaven all around me, and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' And I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.'*

Saul fully believed what he was doing what was right and yet it took light to dispel his dark light.

Freedom Points – (Freedom is not based on works. Freedom is based in truth)

- Perfect light with no darkness is absolute clarity. Who has that, anybody?
- There is only one true light, Christ.
- It takes light to dispel darkness.
- Any amount of darkness always clouds the view or outlook of things.

Walking It Out – (Our part/responsibility based on Christ in You, strengthening us as we choose to walk forward)

- Talk about it? Share past experiences where you were in darkness but are now in the light
- Is your life partly cloudy?
- What is blocking the light in your life from receiving or giving?