

Stay in the Light

Scripture: John 12:34-50

Date: March 24, 2021

Message: *Then Jesus said, "The light will be with you for a little longer, so walk while you have the light. Then the darkness will not catch you. If you walk in the darkness, you will not know where you are going. Believe in the light while you still have it so that you will become children of light." When Jesus had said this, he left and hid himself from them.*

John 12:35-36

Stay in the light and do not travel in the darkness. Each morning we have an opportunity to walk in the light and shine our light on the world. We can do this in many ways from having a positive attitude, committing random acts of kindness, sharing a smile with a stranger, or giving our time and money to help others. Seems simple enough, right? But today our focus is so easily moved from the light to the gray shadows of negative comments on Facebook, political bickering on the news, repeating office gossip, or even our jealous thoughts over another's good fortune. Before we know it, we are deep into the inky darkness and surrounded by unkind thoughts, selfish actions, and moments of self-doubt.

Thanks be to God who forgives us of our trespasses and gives us the ability to try again in the new day. Start your day off in God's light by reading his word. Say a prayer to ask for God's help to keep you on the right path. Be open to the Holy Spirit's nudge as God guides you through your day. You may have to stop now and again to readjust your light and refocus on the path, but a moment of reflection or a silent prayer can save you from taking several steps in the wrong direction.

Prayer: *Dear Father, stand before me and shine the light on the path you wish me to take. Be on my right encouraging me to take that first step of faith, be behind me protecting me from my enemies, and on my left comforting me as I go through my trials. May I never forget you are always with me. Amen.*

Barbara Brown
First (South Charleston) United Methodist Church
Midland South District
cbpnuts@aol.com
Sunday School Facilitator, UMW Circle Leader for FUMC,
Editor of Church Newsletter, FUMC Finance Committee