Pastor: Jonathan Rayder Sermon Title: **"BE THE LIGHT"** Matthew 5:14-16

- What if we (as the Body of Christ) really took Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount seriously?
  - Our salvation is ALL about access to a relationship with our Savior, which has changed us from the inside out
  - This relationship with Jesus, transforms us & we CAN'T just remain the same, we're conformed to the image of God
- "The light of the world" implies the world is naturally dark
  - It's against this dark backdrop, which believers of Jesus Christ stand out as radically different
- 2 Illustrations using 2 different Greek words for "light"
  - 1. Light on a Hill
    - "Light" = it speaks of the brightness or the emanating impact of the light which is shining (focuses on the affects from light)
    - Each of our lives should be brightly shining, but together those lives are an unmistakable witness to those around us
  - 2. Light in a Home
    - "Light" = it speaks of a continual burning (this light has already been lit – it just keeps shining)
    - The very function of followers of Jesus is to give light (giving light is NOT an option)
    - There should be NOTHING in our lives, which block the light (we possess) from shining (our lives should radiate hope)
- When people observe our good works it's NOT the believer who is magnified, but our Savior working in & through us