

To Ponder

The Buddha's Last Instruction

By Mary Oliver

“Make of yourself a light,”
said the Buddha,
before he died.

I think of this every morning
as the east begins
to tear off its many clouds
of darkness, to send up the first
signal — a white fan
streaked with pink and violet,
even green.

An old man, he lay down
between two sala trees,
and he might have said anything,
knowing it was his final hour.

The light burns upward, it thickens
and settles over the fields.
Around him, the villagers gathered
and stretched forward to listen.

Even before the sun itself hangs
disattached, in the blue air, I
am touched everywhere
by its ocean of yellow waves.

No doubt he thought of everything
that had happened
in his difficult life.

And then I feel the sun itself as it
blazes over the hills, like a million
flowers on fire — clearly I'm not
needed,
yet I feel myself turning into
something of inexplicable value.

Slowly, beneath the branches,
he raised his head.

He looked into the faces of that
frightened crowd.

Reading

Matthew 5: 13-16

You are the salt of the earth;
but if the salt loses its flavor,
how shall it be seasoned?

It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out
And trampled underfoot by men.

You are the light of the world.
A city that is set on hill cannot be hidden.
Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket
but on a lampstand,
and it gives light to all who are in the house.

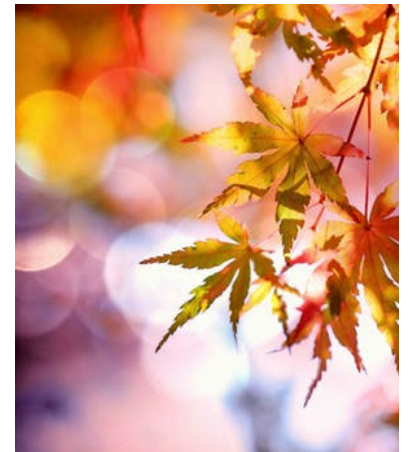
Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in Heaven.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...



Song
Light of the World *By Hillsong Kids*

You called me in to your glorious light
I will not fear 'cause I'm walking with you and talking with you
From heaven you came to show me life.

*You are the light of the world
You are the light of my life
Hope of the earth, my Jesus.*

You called me into your glorious light
I will not fear 'cause I'm walking with you and talking with you
From heaven you came to show me life.

Refrain

I'm gonna be a light and let it shine
Be a light and let it shine
I'm gonna be a light and let it shine
Be a light and let it shine
I'm gonna be a light and let it shine
Be a light and let it shine

Refrain

I'm gonna be a light and let it shine
Be a light and let it shine

Thank You For Joining Us!

Your Prayer Leader

Syndie Eardly

11/7/17

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Make of yourself a **LIGHT**



Our prayer is characterized by silence
Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.