

## 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.