

Shine
The Legacy of Dolly Parton
Sunday, August 30th, 2026

Matthew 5:14-16 NIV

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

1. Be a Seeker of God.
2. Cultivate the Fruit.
3. Shine Bright.

Conclusion: Dolly knew who she was in Christ and understood her mission: to walk with God and shine His love so others could see and know Him. **Seek Him. Cultivate His fruit. Shine brightly** with the life He has given you.

*A legacy is not simply to be remembered;
it is to be carried on in how we live likewise.*

LIFE GROUP LESSON
Shine

Week of August 30th, 2026- September 5th, 2026

Ice Breaker: What is one quality you most admire about Dolly? Why?

Read Matthew 5:13-16.

1. What does Jesus refer us to first? (v.13)
2. What is the purpose of salt? What does that have to do with how we show up in the world?
3. What does Jesus say we are next? (v.14)
4. What does light do for us?
5. Where do we place lights? (v.15)
6. Have you considered your faith being placed on a stand or on a hill for all to see? How does that sit with you?
7. What does that mean in how we live? In how you live?
8. What does this tell you about whether faith is private or shared?
9. What happens if an entire generation stops sharing their faith?
10. What happens if we all keep our light dimly lit or hidden?
11. What is the final command given regarding this light placed within us? (v.16)
12. Who receives the glory for how we live?
13. If God receives the glory, what should not be present in how we shine our light?
14. Whose light are we shining? Read John 8:12.
15. Why might we choose to hide “the light” within us? Who are we pleasing if we live this way?
16. Why might we resist or shy away from living out our God-given dreams?
17. Read Philippians 2:12-15. What must we remember as Christians about how we live and *who we live for*? What is the purpose?
18. Who gives us the desire and ability to act for God’s glory?
19. Read Psalms 14:2. What is God looking for? To live this way, what must we do first and always?
20. Why are so many drawn to Dolly and feeling a great loss?
21. Read Galatians 5:22-23. What fruit did she cultivate in her life? Whose character did she take on? Can any of us cultivate this fruit? How so? What is the priority in doing so?
22. Read Ephesians 5:8. How are we to live? How do we do that?
23. What is the purpose for radiant people like Dolly?

Point to ponder: In reflecting on her life, what is one thing you will ask God to cultivate in you, so your light shines more brightly?