

A Radiant Church

Isaiah 60:1-5

Darkness

wickedness, distress or gloom, ignorance

Head, heart, and hands

Isaiah 5:30 >

Isaiah 59:1-2, 9 >

Notes from Isaiah 60

1-5:

19-22:

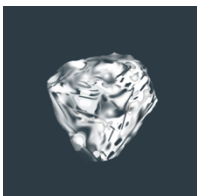
Matthew 5:14-16 >

Ephesians 5:8-14 >

Revelation 21:22-24 >

The Big Idea

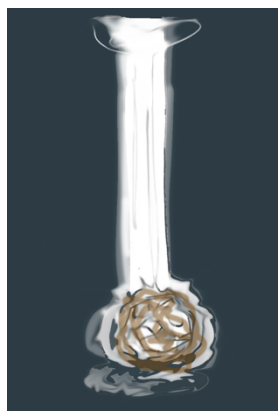
Christ's Church is to be radiant
with His glory
and for His glory
for all the world to see and join



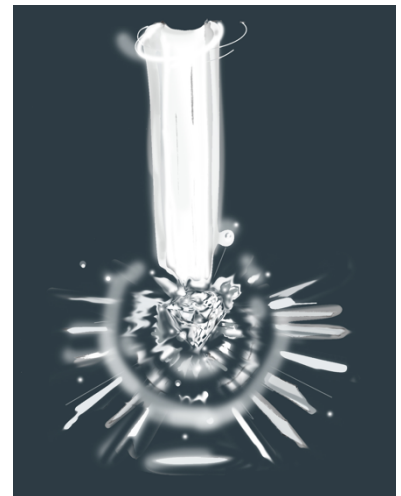
A diamond in the dark



If the Church's radiance
is its own radiance...



Where the church is not holy, where it
has stains and wrinkles and blemishes,
it fails to reflect Christ's glory



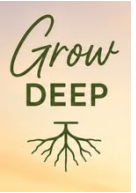
The Church's radiance is the light of Christ
shining on it reflecting out to all the world



What does it mean for us?

Grow to full maturity in Christ

“to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.” Ephesians 5:26-27
“He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.” Colossians 1:28



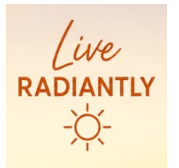
Show Christ's glory so nations will find new life in Christ

“Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.” Isaiah 60:3
“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16
“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9



Show Christ's glory through diverse unity

“After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. ... [giving praise to God]” Revelation 7:9
God's purpose is “to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.” Ephesians 1:10



Show Christ's glory through us all

“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters...your old men... your young men...Even on my servants, both men and women...” Joel 2:28-29
Making changes so everyone is valued. Acts 6:1-7



Filled with His glory

Exodus 40:34-35 >

2 Chronicles 5:13-14 >

Revelation 21:10-11 >

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Where do you see or experience darkness? What effect does it have on you?
2. What is your reaction to this vision of the Church shining with the glory of God?
3. Sometimes people say that the promise of forgiveness might weaken the motivation to grow in holiness. How might this vision of reflecting the glory of God be a powerful motivation to grow in Christ?
4. Read Ephesians 1:10 again. How does the vision of pursuing diverse unity relate to this great purpose of God under Christ?

Conversation starters

Where do you see glory or splendor? Is there a way you participate in that glory and splendor?