

Big Brother

(Matthew 5:13-16, NIV) “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither 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. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

We live in a world obsessed with “watching”. Supermarket tabloids tell us private details about other people’s lives. Television shows like “Survivor” and “Big Brother” allow us to look in on others’ lives. People set up “webcams” in their homes and offices to allow strangers to spy on them over the Internet.

So if everyone is watching someone, what does this mean for a Christian? It means that someone is watching you, too, and they’re making opinions about Christianity based on you. You are a city on a hill, whether you want to be or not, and you’re being watched. Your friends, coworkers, and children want to know if you’re “real” and are watching you like a hawk. No pressure, right?

As Christians, we share our faith so that others may come to know Christ and the forgiveness that He gives, and the first realization is that our light flickers. If it didn’t, we wouldn’t need a Savior. Once we admit that we’re not perfect, we can shine the light of God’s love all the brighter, because God doesn’t see the flickers. He only sees Jesus, the Light of the world whose glory outshines the stars. Knowing this great love God has for us, we can share that love in all we say and do, and season the world with God’s love.