

## *Donna's Devotional*

### *"Lights"*

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*

I am writing this devotional during a power outage. Power "outage" is really a misnomer. Our power to the house is out, but we still have some less desirable sources of power. The computer is powered by a battery pack; some lamps are powered by kerosene and others by batteries. Yet, the primary source of power is not connected. What we are not able to do with this limited power makes me think about a spiritual power outage.

We are not connected to the primary source of power for godly living when we are not relying on God's power in our lives. This is similar to the power outage at our house. If we want our light to shine before men so they may glorify the Father, we must receive the full power from Christ. Ephesians 3:20 states, "*Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** that works in us.*"

In addition to an inadequate power source, other things can keep our lights from shining. Sometimes we put too much stress in our lives. That can cause our lights to "burn out." Even the Lord Jesus knew His need to get away from the crowds and spend time in solitude with His Father.

Another situation that interferes with our shining lights is when we are "broken." I think of this as a Christian who allows sin to shatter his walk with the Lord. When sin enters our life it keeps our light from glorifying the Father.

It's a good practice to periodically check our spiritual lives to see if we are running on full power or experiencing a *power outage*.