

Shining Like Stars

Charlie Gómez



In California there is a street called Hollywood Boulevard which has stars embedded in the sidewalk with the names of famous celebrities engraved on them. These people are considered “stars” by the world because they “shine” on the stage or on TV. But the truth is, gold isn’t all that glitters. As Christians, we are the true stars in the eyes of God. The Bible speaks of stars that far outshine the glory of those celebrities. It says in *Philippians 2:13-16 (NIV)*:

“...for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.”

The first thing that you notice from this passage is that God will cause His desires to grow in your heart so that you can accomplish His will. Through Him you will overcome the weaknesses that are engraved in your character and that have limited you for so long. That will make you shine!!! You will not have the desire or the time to be constantly complaining or to be involved in constant conflict with others. That will make you stand out from others and will make you shine before God. You will shine like a star in your household when they see the changes in you. They will no longer see the darkness in you, but a star that reflects the light of God just like the moon reflects the light of the sun at night. That is why the Apostle Paul says that we shine like stars as we hold out the Word of life. Yes, we hold it out for everyone to see it flowing from our mouths and manifested in our daily life. We hold it out; we don’t hold it in and keep quiet. Let us continue shining like stars as we preach the gospel to a lost and dying world. And always remember that to shine like a star we must follow the advice given in *1 Timothy 4:16 (NIV)*:

“Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

The Lord Jesus has enabled us to serve in the following capacity:

Evangelist
Robert Carr

Associate Evangelist
Pedro Gelabert

Spanish Evangelist
Charlie Gomez

Campus Minister
Ladipo Davies

Worship Directors
David Luhrs
George Bullinger

Bulletin Editors
Pedro Gelabert
Danny Aponte

Minister of Finance
Arthur Shlesinger

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Haste Makes Waste... Of Godly Sorrow

Pedro Gelabert

Isaiah 30:1-3 ESV “Ah, stubborn children,” declares the LORD, “who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; (2) who set out to go down to Egypt, without asking for my direction, to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt! (3) Therefore shall the protection of Pharaoh turn to your shame, and the shelter in the shadow of Egypt to your humiliation.”

Are the plans you are so quick to carry out from your heart or from the Lord? How will you know? What alliances are you making in haste to fulfill your heart’s desire? Haste is a **red flag** – indicating you are going without seeking direction from God. Deals and contracts you seek for refuge and protection are red flags indicating you are moving away from God as your Rock. These very things you trust in will be your shame and your humiliation, proving your plan was from your wicked heart all along. Pain in your heart now – the godly sorrow that makes you do what is right – gives soberness to know you are on the Lord’s path. Your journey will be in joy and your end vindication and righteousness. Let God take care of your pain – don’t run away and seek refuge in the world: people, places and things.

Isaiah 33:5-6 ESV The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness, (6) and he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is Zion’s treasure.

“The Lord added to their number...” Acts 2:47

Baptisms

Dellwin Carpio	5/30/2011	Nikki Strittmatter	3/9/2011
Elijah Budden	5/19/2011	Jacob Spencer	2/26/2011
Dora	5/1/2011	David Molina	2/18/2011
Bianca Kugblenu	4/10/2011	Michelle Ynsinare	2/12/2011
Edwin Garcia	3/26/2011	Ariel Mathews	2/10/2011

“They first gave themselves to the Lord...”

2 Corinthians 8:5

Weekly Budget: \$ 9,000

MONTH	AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	AVERAGE WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION
April, 2011	303	\$8,866.50
May, 2011	283	\$8,810.60
June, 2011	279	\$9,189.25

Beauty Will be Shown by What You Do

Rebecca G. Young

“I want women to show their beauty by dressing in appropriate clothes that are modest and respectable. Their beauty will be shown by what they do, not by their hair styles or the gold jewelry, pearls, or expensive clothes they wear. This is what is proper for women who claim to have reverence for God.”

1Timothy 2:9-10 GW

As Christian women living in today’s society, we face many pressures to beautify ourselves and to live up to a fashionable standard set by the world. Maybe we even sometimes experience these pressures among ourselves, in the Lord’s Church. Well, this dilemma is nothing new. Our sisters of the past had to overcome the same pressures. They were challenged to consider what they wore and how they adorned themselves. Were they modest and respectable? Did they show reverence to God and show it through modest dressing and by their actions? In *1Timothy 2* Paul was giving instructions to Timothy on what is proper for God’s holy people as they worship their Lord God. He instructed that the women be careful about how they dressed and that they recognize how beauty isn’t displayed in hair styles, expensive clothes or jewelry, but instead in good works of service. Sisters, don’t fall into the devil’s old trap. He’s been trying to trap women for ages to take their eyes off the will of the Lord and be misguided by “beauty and fashion”. What we wear really isn’t *that* important, as long as it is decent and modest. The ruler of this world will have you putting way too much emphasis on your wardrobe. True beauty is found in what you do, not what you wear. *“For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting...” (1Peter 3:5 ESV)* Adornment has everything to do with your actions and very little with your clothing or jewelry. *1Timothy 5:10* has a list of good deeds to acquire.

The NIV uses these words... *“I also want women to dress modestly with decency and propriety...”* Here are some helpful definitions:

Decency is defined as *conformity to the recognized standard of propriety, goodtaste, modesty, etc.*

Propriety is defined as *conformity to established standards of good or proper behavior.*

Modesty is defined as 1. *free from vanity, egotism, boastfulness.* 2. *Free from ostentation or showy extravagance.*

Ostentation is defined as *pretentious show, as of wealth or importance; display intended to impress others.*

Have you noticed that we are always being encouraged to conform? Why is that? I guess our nature is to do our own thing, to rebel, or to follow our hearts. I guess that’s why we are called the “weaker vessel” (*1Peter 3:7*). Anyway, in my study of this topic I came across that word “ostentation”, wow that was a great word. Modesty is being free from wanting to impress others with our hair styles, clothing, jewelry, with our lives. Free from vanity. This can be applied in many ways. What about our homes? What do we put in our homes? Our cars? Our shoes and pocketbooks? Do you require only the best, most expensive things? You may say, “I don’t want to impress anyone, I just like nice things.” Be honest and look deep within your heart. Why do you like “nice” things? Who says they are “nice”? Who puts a value on things? The world says what is “good”, and we are being trained in it every time we watch TV, read a magazine or look on the internet. God also says what is “good”. Which “good” do you choose to follow? I must confess that when I go shopping the items I pick out first are *always* the most expensive and extravagant. My eyes want expensive things. Without realizing it, my eyes are drawn to the item with the “Wow!” factor. There was a time when I would buy name brand and only the best so I could show it off. I definitely didn’t have a modest attitude. But thankfully God gave me a modest husband, and between God and Rob teaching me, I have acquired a more modest lifestyle. I want to align myself with the teachings of God, so I am thankful for His gentle guidance and patience with me. God is so good to us! Remember everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial (*1Cor.6:12*). We *can* beautify ourselves, our homes, etc. with things. There is nothing wrong with beautiful things. God has made many things beautiful to be enjoyed by all. But, when we put our hope in them, placing too much emphasis on them, trying to show off and use *things* to express our beauty, then we are missing the mark. They actually become stumbling blocks.

The ESV uses the words *“adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control.”* We have to exercise self-control when we dress ourselves. We *can* do anything, but it is the fruit of the spirit, self-control, that when exercised brings glory to God. The KJV uses the words *“modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety...”* The Greek word used for shamefacedness is *αἰδωσ* (*aidos*) which means *bashfulness; with downcast eyes.* When we walk into the assembly, or wherever we are, let us not seek to show off or impress like the world does but instead be modest, bashful, and sober. Let us recognize our true place and let the true value of our beauty be found in what we do not in what we display. This kind of beauty is precious in God’s sight. I love you all and God does too! God bless!

“For the building up of the Body...”

Ephesians 4:12

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS QUARTER

- 📖 **Off Bible Class Dates:** July 13th, Aug 10th, Sept 14th
- 📖 **Devotional Service Dates:** July 8th, 22nd; Aug 5th, 19th; Sept 9th, 23rd
- 📖 **LICOC BBQ:** July 16th, 11am - 5pm at Belmont Lake State Park. Rain Date is July 23rd
- 📖 **City Women’s Fellowship:** July 30th 10am-12pm at Zoraida Rengifo’s Home
- 📖 **VBS 2011:** Aug 8th - 12th, 7pm-9pm at the NYIT SAC Building. Register at <http://vbs.licoc.org>
- 📖 **Singles Ministry Picnic:** Aug 13th. See Victor Quaye for details.
- 📖 **Fall Harvest Campaign:** Sept 24th 11:30am-3pm
- 📖 **Women’s Day:** Save the Date! Oct 22nd
- 📖 **Video Library:** If you have any items take out from the video library, please make sure they are signed out or return them if you’re done with them. Please see Rob Dixon in the back foyer Sunday after services for more information.
- 📖 Keep up with all church events by joining LICChurch Space! Go to www.licoc.org and click the LICChurch Space link!
- 📖 If you would like to order a CD of a past sermon or seminar, please see Rob Dixon.
- 📖 All announcements should be submitted to David Luhrs.
- 📖 Address/telephone changes can be e-mailed to directory@licoc.org.
- 📖 **Parking reminder** - Public Safety has issued a statement requesting that all church members and visitors **refrain** from parking on any **grass areas** beyond the parking lots surrounding the chapel. Thank you for your cooperation!

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

- ✝ Apologetics Press.....International
- ✝ We Care Ministries.....West Monroe, Louisiana
- ✝ Ron Clayton.....India
- ✝ Doug & Lucy McDougle.....Ukraine, Russia
- ✝ Long Island Harvest Campaign.....Central Islip, NY
- ✝ City Harvest Campaign.....Queens, NY

“Your faith toward God has gone forth...”

1 Thessalonians 1:8

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS MINISTRIES

Long Island Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm).....Robert Carr.....(631) 348-7322
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

City Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm).....Pedro Gelabert(347) 732-2101
St Luke’s Baptist Church Laurelton Senior Center, 133-21 232nd Street, Jamaica, NY 11413

Spanish Ministry.....(Tuesday 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm).....Charlie Gómez.....(631) 772-2889
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

College Ministry.....(Thursday 7:20 pm - 8:20 pm)....Ladipo Davies.....(631) 413-5863
SAC Room 309 at Stony Brook University, 100 Nicolls Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790

WE CARE MINISTRIES

For anyone wanting to use his/her vacation in a fruitful way, take a vacation to help bring souls to Jesus. :) Join a “We Care Ministry” soul winning team and help bring people to the Lord. Learn the techniques of the “We Care Ministry” team leaders: Larry West, Willie Tolison, and Bill Oden. Room and board will be provided. If you need more information, please visit <http://wecareministries.com/>