

Lenten Bible Study – February 24, 2021 Matthew 5:14-16 and Matthew 7:3-5

**Question: Where are we faithful?
What sins are we excusing and justifying?**

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

³ Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.

Lent:

- Focused time of prayer and repentance
- Repentance: two-fold meaning
- Yearly “reset” – time to take an honest look at several things in our lives:

Where are we faithful?

- Sermon on the Mount
- What is shining before others?
- We may be the only Christian someone has in his/her life
- Take a step back and observe yourself during Lent – where are you telling the truth in love? Where are you gossiping? Where are you building others up? Where are you tearing them down?

What sins are we excusing?

- Can we see our own sins? Are we willing to look?
- Can we call sin *sin* or do we have an excuse for it?
- We all are responsible for our own words and actions

To Ponder This Week:

- What do people see when they see me?
- What sins am I excusing, minimizing, denying, etc?