

E-Series

Punching Holes in Darkness



14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** 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. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. **—Matthew 5:14-16**

Robert Louis Stevenson was the author of the famous book, *Treasure Island* (Captain J. Flint, Long John Silver, etc.). Stevenson grew up near a small town in Scotland in the nineteenth century.

From his family's home up on a hillside overlooking the town, Stevenson could observe the goings on of the townspeople below. The story is often told of Stevenson's fascination with the lamplighters. He loved to watch as the lamplighter made their way down the street in the town every night, equipped with their ladders and torches, lighting the street lights.

One night his father noticed his son's rapt attention and asked him, "Robert, what in the world are you looking at down there?" Without even looking up, Stevenson exclaimed, "Look at that man! He's punching holes in the darkness!"

Light does that. It pierces the darkness. It drives the darkness away. And Jesus calls us to be the light of the world.

In what ways do you punch holes in darkness? How can you better reflect the light of Jesus' love? What hinders you from shining?

Trying to punch holes in darkness,

Pastor Michael