

Luke 10:39 “She had a sister named Mary, which also sat at Jesus’ feet and heard His word.”

**NEWSLETTER: “MOMENTS WITH MARY”**

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**“SEARCHLIGHTS OR A SMALL LAMP?”**

*Mary Mayko*

*“For Thou art my lamp, O LORD; and the LORD will lighten my darkness.” 2 Sam 22:29*

*Psalm 139:23-24 “Search me, O God, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me the way everlasting.”*

Searchlights and lamps! As a small child, both of these were a part of my life! Our home had no electricity, so our family used oil lamps when it became dark outside. I recall my parents reading beside the library table that held the lamp. It was the World War II era, and every one had to make do with whatever we could to support our Country. If you heard the warning signal, you had to lower your lights and cover the windows!

If you went outside on a dark night, you would see the huge beams of light from the searchlights that swept over the city! Even though we lived in the Midwest, the air raid wardens were on duty, to make sure no enemy aircraft had slipped by others who were watching the skies! It was rather fascinating for us to scan the skies looking for foreign planes! My older brother was vigilant, and wanted to be sure no one would bomb our house! [*I thought he was very brave! When I got older, I wondered what he would have done if we saw an enemy plane!*]

Searchlights were invented in 1882. They were used to signal allies or confuse and blind their enemies! From WWI through WWII searchlights were in constant use, both as defensive and offensive tools! They also used them to detect their enemies at night who intended to blow up bridges that carried troops and supplies to front lines!

Later, after WWI, searchlights were used at the World’s Fair in Chicago in 1933, and immediately became a commercial and popular way of drawing people’s attention to some important place or event, and stilled used today! Since we lived a ways from the city, we felt safe when we went out to watch the searchlights moving at a steady pace back and forth. Isn’t it interesting that God uses the word *search* often in the scriptures! He tells us that we need to search our own hearts, for anything that would hinder our walk with Him.

The Psalmist said in Ps.139:23-24 that he invited God to search his heart! I did that years ago in a rather smug way, wrongly thinking the LORD would *not* find anything in *my* heart that would displease Him! *How mistaken I was!* Almost before I finished *my self-righteous spiel* before God, I felt His hand of correction swiftly laying conviction on my heart about forgotten *things!* *You* don’t need to know what they were, for I am sure you

have *had your own heart break* when the LORD showed you a few things you would have rather left hidden!

A searchlight exposes the darkness, allowing you to face your *enemies*, and though Christ to tear down the strongholds! {2 Cor.10:2-6} While the World Wars were fought by people against people, our spiritual battles fight against unseen forces that seek to destroy us! We have to be on the alert!

The LORD hardly ever shines a light very far on our present pathways, but He does provide a lamp for us!

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” Psalm 119:105*

How often have we requested a *searchlight to shine far into the future*, when He instructs us to carry His light and go one step at a time, one day at a time, and trust that He knows where and how that path will lead us in His perfect way! Jesus gave us some interesting points to consider! {Matt.6:33-34} He said not to worry over tomorrow, but take care of today, for the Father will supply our needs! If they are different tomorrow, He already knows it and will provide! Problems arise when our *wants do not line up with His provisions!*

In place of asking the LORD to reveal the future to us, ask Him to be your Light in the dark areas ahead! 2 Sam.22:29 *“For Thou art my lamp, O LORD; and the LORD will lighten my darkness.”* He will show us the way we should go, He is always with us, even when it does not seem so! Make a commitment to do a “word” study the Bible in 2012. Such as: Light, Lead, Law, etc. It is amazing what the LORD will teach you when you do!

*Proverbs 20:27CEV “Our inner thoughts are a lamp from the LORD, and they search our hearts.”*

*Proverbs 6:23 “For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light: and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.”*

**ARE YOU ASKING GOD FOR A SEARCHLIGHT OR A LAMP?  
CAREFUL WHAT YOU ASK FOR!**

May God Bless you and keep you in His loving arms in this New Year!

In His Service, Mary Mayko 2012

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