## **SONshine** Submitted by Minister Deidra Taylor

## Matthew 5:14-15

<sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>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.

The Sun, S.U.N. shines so brightly, high in the sky, as it sets itself amongst the clouds. It illuminates the world, separating day from night. The glow of the sun gives life to the flowers, the grass, and the trees. The sun warms our seas, stirs our atmosphere. It generates our weather patterns and gives energy to the growing green plants. Plants that need sunlight to grow. Animals, including humans, need these plants for food and for the oxygen they produce to live. The sun radiates light and heat, and solar energy, making it possible for life to exist on Earth. For without heat from the sun, the earth would freeze. Life without the sun would not exist.

In the same way, the sun, S.U.N., gives life to flowers, the birds, and the trees, the Son, S.O.N. gives life to the spirit that lays within us. For without the Son we are nothing. The Son is essential to our living. Without the Son, we too would not exist. Yes, in other words, we would be "lifeless."

The Son, S.O.N. brightens our entire existence and His light can shine in us and through us. We illuminate the light of God's spirit, as His light allows us to become the light of the world. We were all born to shine and manifest the glory of God that is within us. And as we allow our own light to shine, we unknowingly give authorization for others to do the same. Our Light cannot be hidden. You are a great source of Light! A light of the world. A light of the Most-High!

And just like the world needs the sun, S.U.N, it also needs the Son, our Savior. I also encourage you to never allow your light "not" to shine, for you never know who is in darkness and in need of your sunshine.

Have you ever taken time to experience the quiet moments of the true beauty of nature? The birds chirping in unison, the flowers blooming and expelling their pleasant scents. Or, the leaves on the tree waving ever so gently. The branches of the trees appear to be extending themselves, welcoming the Sun with open arms. These are the wonders of the Sun and Son.

Just as we enjoy the pleasantries and necessity of the sun, S.U.N., we also recognize the importance of the Son, S.O.N., and how essential He is to our lives. And just as the trees are reaching for the sun, we ourselves extend our arms in the welcoming of the Son, S.O.N. We give thanks to God for ensuring every facet of our existence in allowing His Light to shine.