

## The Power of Light

In March 1960, American physicist Theodore H. Maiman received a patent for the first laser, a device producing a powerful beam of light that can travel over long distances or be focused to an extremely small diameter. The special qualities of laser beams make them ideal for a wide variety of functions: They are narrow, they spread little, and they can be focused very precisely. A tightly focused beam can drill 200 holes on a spot as small as the head of a pin. A large laser system can trigger a small nuclear reaction.

Since the early 1970s, the field of laser technology has exploded. Lasers function in equipment in homes, offices, hospitals, factories and libraries. The capacity of lasers to record, store and transmit information has led to a new era in communications and computer technology. Today, the laser is one of our most versatile and valuable tools.

The power of light: Jesus understood its significance in the spiritual sense during the time He walked upon the earth. He told His followers that they were like lamps on a stand, shining for everyone to see. Just as people don't light a candle or lamp and then hide it, God doesn't put His light within us so we can keep it hidden away. We are to be open about sharing the love derived from our Christian experience. The power of the gospel should light up our lives so that others can see God's grace and truth.

Associates who have attended the *Life Care Journey: Just the Beginning* recognize the application to us in the mission to which we are called. We realize that there are people in our communities who live in a dark, lonely and confused world who have nowhere else to turn except toward the light of love and hope they see coming from our facilities. Our focus in living a holy lifestyle is not to draw attention to ourselves, but to direct people's eyes to God. We should let our good deeds for our residents and for each other shine so that people will see them and praise our heavenly Father, instead of us.

We may feel as if we are giving off a tiny, feeble beam, but in a dark world a little light can set off a powerful reaction.

--Beecher Hunter