

Life Group Lesson - Week of 4/21

This lesson is based on Matthew 5:13-16.

Highlight

One of the best ways to highlight Scripture is to look for repeated phrases or themes. When the author says something again and again, it clues the reader to what his primary theme might be. A second study skill is to look for contrasting words.

- Verse 13 is a question Jesus answered Himself. What stands out about His question?
- What questions do you have about this passage?

Explain

In this portion of our study, we're intending to figure out Matthew's meaning to his original audience, as well as those of us who read this today. ****Remember, the Bible cannot mean what it never meant.****

- What is the biggest similarity between the use of salt and light in this passage?
- Based on the beatitudes, how is a Christian supposed to be salt & light?
- Turn to John 8:12. In this verse Jesus makes the statement that whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness. Since Jesus is the light, how do Christian let their light shine before others?

Apply

This is now the portion of our study where the rubber meets the road.

- Salt only loses its "saltiness" by being mixed with other things. What have you allowed in your life that causes your salt to be less noticeable?
- In the sermon, Jerry made the statement: *Jesus is all you need for all you face*. When facing something difficult, what are you tempted to place your trust in other than Jesus?

Respond

- One of our 5 discipleship outcomes that we hope every believer will embrace is: ***Looks around for the lost by living sent to their neighbor and the nations***. Who will you share the light of Jesus with this week?

- How will you use your influence this week (work, family, etc.) to be the salt of the earth?