

Small Group Discussion Guide — Read Matthew 5:13-16

- How are compromise or isolation two temptations Christians often face in their relationship to the world? How have you seen this or experienced this in your own life? In which are you most tempted?
- What are some practical ways we can battle these temptations to either give in to the culture around us, or to insulate ourselves from the world?
- How might vs. 13-16 serve as the bridge between the Beatitudes (vs. 3-12) and the rest of the Sermon on the Mount?
- What does Jesus mean that his kingdom citizens will be “the salt of the earth”? What are some ways of understanding this metaphor?
- How might Christians purify, preserve, or flavor the world? What are some potential dangers with this metaphor and how we transform culture?
- What does Jesus mean that his kingdom citizens will be “the light of the world?” What are some ways of understanding this metaphor?
- How is this a pretty radical statement when compared with John 8:12?
- How might Christians be light in a dark world? What does Jesus mean by the two illustrations in vs. 14-15?
- In what ways or areas of your life have you been convicted that you aren’t living as “salt and light?” What are some practical ways that you might seek to have a greater influence where God has “sprinkled” you?