



January 17, 2010
Sermon Based Studies

Group members guide

Community
Matthew 5: 14-16

Text: Matthew 5:14-16

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Getting to know me

1. Was there someone who was instrumental in bringing the light of Christ to you to help you become a Christ follower?

2. Tell the group about any experience that you have had to bring light to someone else.

Into the Bible

1. Jesus urged his disciples to do God’s works with him. There would be a time when no more works could be done. What can these works accomplish? Look at the following verses—
Matt. 5:16—

John 14:10-14—

Eph. 2:8-10—

2. Pastor Jim shared a number of verses to show that Jesus is the light.
John 1:4-5
John 3:19-21
John 8:12
John 9:4-5

What concepts are connected to “light?”

What effect does that have on our lives?

3. Gal. 2:20-- I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
What does it mean to be “crucified with Christ?”

Application Questions

1. Do you find that you sometimes take the light of Jesus for granted in your life? What would help you to be more mindful of that on a daily basis?
2. What parts of your life have you had or do you still have to “crucify” as you follow Christ?
3. How do we get the “I” out of ourselves as in Gal. 2:20?

Where are you in terms of a “crucified” lifestyle?

4. What barriers do you face in shining your light in—
Family
Friends
Co-workers
What openings do you find among these?
5. In your “community sphere of influence” what more could you do as—Your family. Your small group (Is your group sponsoring one of our church’s missionaries? If not, contact Lois Thompson or Pam Middleton for information about who and what that involves.)
Our church. Is there a place that you could join in to make a difference?
6. Have you ever thought of having a “global sphere of influence?” Think (and talk with your group) about where this is at in your life now and what new steps you could take with regard to—
Relationships
Short term missions
Prayer and resources