

UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM - WEEK 3-

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDE

LEADER'S NOTES:

Hey leaders! Remember, you are the GUIDE for conversation, not the teacher. It's tempting to want to do all the 'talking' in the groups, but life groups are designed for students to INTERACT with each other as well as self discover the truth that we find in the Bible!

CORE QUESTION:

- How do you live like salt & light?

CORE THOUGHT:

- You were designed to change your environment.

KEY SCRIPTURES:

- **Matthew 5:13-16**

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. 14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ICEBREAKER:

-What's your favorite salty snack?

QUESTION 1:

- What stood out to you from Colin's message tonight?

QUESTION 2:

- What was your first reaction to the idea of being called "salt" and "light"? How does that make you feel about your role in the world?

QUESTION 3:

- Colin mentioned that salt and light change their environment. Can you think of a situation where you saw someone make a positive change in their surroundings? How did it impact others?

Have a student read **Matthew 5:13-16**

QUESTION 4:

- Reflecting on **Matthew 5:13-16**, how can we be strong in our faith while still being active in our everyday lives & communities? What does it look like to be "in the world but not of the world"?

QUESTION 5:

- What does it mean to "put yourself in a place of visibility"? How can being visible as a Christian help others see the love of God?

QUESTION 6:

-What is one thing you can do this week to actively be salt and light in your environment?

END IN PRAYER REQUESTS

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HIGH SCHOOL GUIDE-

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ICEBREAKER:

- What's your favorite salty snack?

QUESTION 1:

- What stood out to you from Colin's message?

QUESTION 2:

- What was your first reaction to being called "salt" and "light"? What specific responsibilities do you feel come with these roles in today's world?

QUESTION 3:

- What examples of "darkness" or confusion do you observe in your environment? How can you be proactive in bringing light and clarity to those areas?

Have a student read Matthew 5:13-16

QUESTION 4:

- Reflecting on Matthew 5:13-16, how can we balance being distinct in our faith while still fully engaging with our environment? What does it look like to be "in the world but not of the world"?

QUESTION 5:

- Matthew 5:14-15 describes visibility. Why is it crucial for Christians to openly demonstrate their faith? Can you share an experience where someone's visible faith impacted you or others?

QUESTION 6:

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HIGH SCHOOL GUIDE-

- What is one action you can take this week to actively be salt and light? What impact do you hope to see from this action?

END IN PRAYER REQUESTS