



Matthew 5:13-16 – The King’s Ambassadors

Small Group Questions

Pray for God’s help as you turn to look at His word, to understand and respond rightly to what you’ll see.

Read through Matthew 5:1-16 (for context) and then discuss these questions together.

1. Go around the group and share the one or two people who were most influential in leading you to follow Jesus, or to grow in your relationship with him. What was it about those people that had such an impact on you?

In these verses, Jesus says that his followers are to be distinctive from the world around us (like salt) and visible (like a town on a hill or a lamp on its stand).

2. What are the contexts in which you are regularly around and interacting with people who are not followers of Jesus?
3. Discuss what it might look like for you to be ‘salt’ in that context, remembering that salt (i) preserves, (ii) improves and (iii) creates thirst. Are there examples of other Christians being ‘salt’ in these ways that encourage and inspire you?
4. What do you think holds us back from making ourselves more visible as followers of Jesus? How do these verses help and challenge you in this?
5. ‘Ambassadors have their hearts firmly in one kingdom and their feet in another.’ How does this analogy help you think about being salt and light in your day-to-day life?
6. What does Jesus say will be the effect of us living like this (see v11-12 as well as v16) and how does it help to know that?
7. What might be your next step of boldness as an ambassador for Jesus? How can we encourage each other to be salt and light through the next few days?

Respond to God’s word in prayer

Take some time to pray for each other