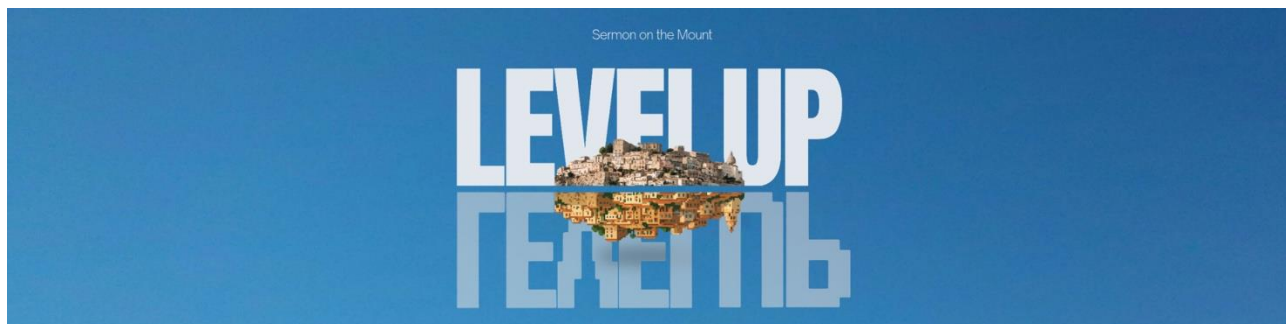




Week 2 – Salt and Light

Opening: Begin with a brief welcome and prayer to set the tone for the group time. Ask Jesus to teach and form the group through His words.

Overview: In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus describes a life shaped by His Kingdom. Last week, the Beatitudes showed us the kind of people Jesus is forming. This week, Jesus makes it clear that His work in us was never intended to stop with us.

Discussion Questions

CONNECT

- Have you ever had someone make a meaningful impact on your life simply because of the way they consistently lived or treated you? What made them stand out?

DISCOVER

Read Together: Matthew 5:13-16

Initial observations + Interpreting Scripture:

- **Initial Thoughts:** What stood out to you from this passage or from the sermon?

You Are:

Jesus doesn't tell His disciples that they might someday become salt and light. He tells them, "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world."

- What changes when we begin to see being "salt and light" as a part of our identity as followers of Jesus rather than an extra responsibility for especially committed Christians?

Salt – Close Enough to Matter

Salt can only affect something when it comes into contact with it.

- What do you think it looks like for Christians to be "close enough to love, but different enough to matter"?
- There are two extremes:
 - Withdraw from people who don't believe what we believe or
 - To live so similarly that there is nothing distinctive about our lives as Christ followers
 - Which of these two traps are you most likely to fall into?

Light – Make Jesus Visible

Jesus says people should see our good works and “give glory to Your Father who is in heaven.”

- How can we make Jesus visible through our lives without making relationships or conversations feel forced?
- How do we avoid “just being nice” and instead become intentional “light”?

APPLY

*Jason asked us to consider the places where God has already placed us as places where we have been **SENT** by God.*

- What is your community? Where has God already placed you where you consistently interact with the same people?
- Is there a relationship where you need to be more intentional in sharing Jesus with someone? Who is your one? What excuses stand in the way? How can we help keep you accountable?

RESPOND

Take a moment privately and complete these statements:

My community is: _____

My one is: _____

This week, I will: _____

GROUP PRAYER

Spend time praying specifically for the communities and people your group identified.

Formation: Ask Jesus to continue forming His character in you so that the people around you experience something different because you follow Him.

Community: Pray for the neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, teams, and other spaces represented in your group. Ask God to use your presence there for the good of the people around you.

Your One: Ask God to give each person opportunities, courage, wisdom, and genuine love as they move toward the person they identified.

CLOSE

Jesus doesn't call us to manufacture a spiritual moment. Sometimes being salt and light starts with something very ordinary: learning someone's name, listening, inviting them over, serving them, buying lunch, praying for them, or sharing what Jesus has done in your life.