

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM



Date & Sermon Series:

June 20/21, 2015; Salt and Light

Speaker:

Dr. Dick Foth

Scripture Focus: Matthew 5: 13-16

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed how we are “light.” These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: One of my favorite summertime activities growing up was chasing fireflies, or lightening bugs, as they lit up my yard after dark. What was one of your favorite games to play during the summer when you were younger?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. To whom in your life do you need to be light?

Specific Questions:

1. We learned this weekend that when God said, “let there be light,” he was also giving us the universe, the basis for measurement, and the ability to see color and grow food. Knowing all that light provides, how do you feel knowing you’ve been charged with being “light?”
2. Dr. Foth shared a story about Sarah Patton Boyle, a woman who “fell through the cracks and Jesus caught her.” Can you relate to that idea? If so, share about a time when you felt like you had fallen through the cracks but Jesus caught you.
3. Dr. Foth shared that as light in the world, we can help provide clarity and perspective and help see what’s important. Further, the presence of light brings warmth and insight, and helps see things you normally wouldn’t. He ended this by saying,

“you don’t do light, you are light.” Have you been light to somebody in the last few weeks? What element of light did you share? How was it received?

4. In the children’s bible song, “This Little Light of Mine,” one of the verses is, “hide it under a bushel, no! I’m going to let it shine.” Is there anywhere in your life where you have been hiding your light under a bushel? If so, why? Are there steps you can take this week to letting your light shine?
5. Conversely, as Dr. Foth shared, “when it’s really dark, it doesn’t take much light to be seen.” Where in your life does your light shine?
6. When light syncs up, we call them lasers and use them to weld things, heal things, and destroy things. Similarly, according to Dr. Foth, when Christians come together we can bring healing to broken lives, destroy the enemy, and our efforts draw attention to the one who brings life. Share a time in your life when you’ve experienced or seen the “laser” of Christians coming together. Is there an area in your life that needs the light of a “laser?” If so, what can you do this week to get the healing you need?
7. Dr. Foth ended his sermon by reminding us of this: “By your presence, light comes into the world.” Do you believe this? If not, why? What steps might you take to ensure it can be true of you? If so, how do you live your life in such a way that shows you do?

Challenge:

Read & Pray: Pray through Genesis 1:1-3 reflecting on and praising God for all the ways that the phrase “let there be light” has impacted your life.

Act: While explaining all the things light provides, Dr. Foth shared the story of his friend who said his answer to the question, “how do you know there’s a God?” would be, “because your shirt is yellow!” Spend some time this week thinking about what your answer will be the next time someone asks you how you know there’s a God.