

MasterClass

LESSONS FROM THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

WARM UP QUESTION

What is your favorite food seasoning?

1 **Read Matthew 5:13-16.** What metaphors does Jesus use to describe His followers? What difference does it make that He says this is what we are not what we should become? What purpose do both salt and light serve in the world? Who do they bring attention to?

2 A quick scientific study of salt teaches us it won't go bad unless it's exposed to moisture or contaminated by other additives. How does this apply to us as disciples? What "additives" or environmental contaminants might be seeping into your life, causing you to lose your saltiness?

3 When are you most tempted to let your light stay hidden in a dark world? How does Jesus say we let our lights shine according to verse 16? Talk as a group about how you can know if your good deeds are pointing to yourself or to God? How can you balance being salt and light in this world while also not allowing it to contaminate your own life?

4 **Read Matthew 5:17-20.** What does Jesus seem to be anticipating in verse 17 (skim the rest of chapter 5 to see what's coming)? How did Jesus accomplish the purpose of (or fulfill) the law? According to verses 18 and 19, how does Jesus view the law? How do you think He would respond to someone who says the Old Testament isn't meant for those of us who live under the New Covenant?

5 **Compare these verses to Romans 8:3-4.** How do God's commands point us to Jesus, and in turn, Jesus points us back to God's commands (how do the commands help us learn how to live in His upside-down kingdom)? How can you hide God's Word in your heart better so that life in the Kingdom becomes like second nature to you?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at tpcc.org/dbr. Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!