

**SERMON:** Light as Witness

December 2, 2018

**SERIES:** Christmas Lights

**SPEAKER:** Pastor Mark

**CONNECT** (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

**REVIEW** (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 5:14-16

**SERMON OUTLINE:**

I. Why We Need the Light      II. Shining as a Light      III. The Goal of the Light

**GROW** (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group. Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Read 1 John 1:5 and John 8:12. Before we can consider that we are the light, we must understand that God and Jesus are light. What does this phrase reveal about the nature of God? What does it reveal about the nature of the world we live in? How does Jesus reveal the light of God to the world?
2. "You ARE the light of the world." What does this declaration by Jesus tell us about ourselves? Do you believe that you are the light? How can your union with Christ help you to believe this awesome truth?
3. You are the light of the WORLD." How could Jesus give ordinary people like us such a big vision? Does this vision inspire you? Why or why not?
4. "YOU are the light of the world." The "you" here is plural. Why is it so important to remember that our light is a communal light, not only an individual light? How can you join your church this season in being a light?
5. "Let your light shine before men." God wants to use you. But remember your light is a reflected light from Christ. How does this take the pressure off of you? Do you believe that God can use you as a light?
6. "That they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Our ultimate goal is to see the Father glorified. How do our "good deeds" (beautiful deeds) reveal the Father? What are some practical things you can do this Christmas season to reveal the Father to others?

Pray: Praise God for being our light and salvation. Confess any ways that you are looking to other things as your source of light. Ask Him to allow you to remember that you **are** the light because you are **in** the light.