

# groups

Study Group: Participant Guide  
Matthew 5:13-16 – December 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>

## CHECK-IN

*An opportunity to show authentic community as we **share the struggles** and **celebrate the victories** we've experienced in the last week.*

## STUDY

*Main Topics: The Church, Share Christ, Shine Brightly*

Read Matthew 5:13-16

- Why are we called to be the salt of the earth?
- What will make the Church stand out like a lighthouse?
- What other passages of Scripture help us understand what the Church is?
- What makes the Church distinct from other organizations that do good?
- What did Pastor Bill say the cities of refuge were supposed to provide?
- How does Jesus act like a city of refuge for us?
- What is the foundation for how the Church acts according to verse 16?

## APPLY

- Pastor Bill said we should not "sit on our hands" until the corona virus is over. What can we do to avoid falling into this mindset?
- How have you seen God give the Church unique opportunities to minister to people through the pandemic?
- Pastor Bill said we should not "remain in the saltshaker" and need to take the salt to the world. When have you seen the Church "remain in the saltshaker"?
  - Why are we tempted to "remain in the saltshaker"?
- Have you seen God answer prayer even when you were far away from the location where it took place?
- How can our church act like a city of refuge?
  - What prevents churches from acting like cities of refuge?
- Pastor Bill said, "We are basically hurt people who are helped by God, helping hurt people who need to connect with God." What does this say to you?
- How can you help people more in their day-to-day walk with God?
  - How can our church help *you* more in your day to day walk with God?
- How has the Church gotten caught up with pulling people's tags rather than cloaking people with Christ?
- Have you asked the four questions Pastor Bill challenged us with?