



Bible Study Questions

25th August 2024

Matthew 5:13-16

Introduction

In this famous passage of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus calls his disciples to be **visible**. Start by honestly answering these questions: How “visible” is your faith? *To your family, your coworkers, acquaintances?*

Read & Reflect

Read Matthew 5:13-16 at least twice using different versions of the Bibles. As you read or listen to the words, reflect and share on the following:

- What stands out or what do you notice?
- What questions are raised for you?
- What challenges you?

Questions

- Jesus uses the image of SALT because it is *distinct*, it *brings out the best* and it *preserves* something that is decaying. How do these qualities relate to our call as disciples today?
- What do you think it means when Jesus says: *but If the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.* (v13)?
- Jesus uses the image of LIGHT because it attracts, guides and scatters the darkness. How should the church function as *light* today?
- Jesus warns us about **hiding** our light. Honestly reflect with each other about the core reasons we might hide our faith from those around us.
- Here, Jesus encourages visibility – however, later in chapter 6:1-8 he encourages secrecy. Discuss the difference between these seemingly contradictory commands!

Application

- Lesslie Newbigin once said: “The deepest motive for mission is simply **the desire to be with Jesus where he is**, on the frontier between the reign of God and the usurped dominion of the devil.”

Where is the frontier Jesus is calling you to join him at, so that *you* may be salt and light in that dark place?

Take the Sermon on the Mount into your week

- Use Rich Villodas’ Devotional study “THE NARROW PATH” on the YouVersion Bible app & join fellow CBC’ers through the Sermon on the Mount!