

## The Uncommon Kingdom: Salt

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Matthew 5:13-16

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### Discussion and Reflection Guide

#### **Humans are obviously creatures of Story**

We use stories to find greater purpose and meaning in our lives.

\*How do you see this to be true?

\*Can you think of a story that has helped you find greater meaning in your life or a story that resonated with your soul in some way?

#### **Jesus talked about the story of the Kingdom of God**

He gives a vision of what the world could be and tells us how to make it happen.

\*What story of what the Kingdom looks like is most powerful to you?

\*How does Jesus' vision and the ways to get there stand in contrast to other stories told throughout time and the world?

#### **To make our earth great, we must be salt**

Read and discuss Matthew 5:13 (NIV)

*13 "You are the salt of the earth. 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."*

\*What are some of the qualities and functions of salt?

\*Can you think of a time that someone characterized these, when you saw someone being 'salty' in the world?

\*What happens when we don't fulfill our essential function to be salt?

#### **To make our earth great, we must be light**

Read and discuss Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

*14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

\*What are some qualities and functions of light?

\*Can you think of a time when someone characterized these, when you saw someone be light in the world?

\*What happens when we don't fulfill our essential function to be light?

#### **Jesus says it is on us to embody the Kingdom**

Our presence in the world is about helping people see the Kingdom of God coming to earth like it is in heaven.

\*What does it mean for you to live as salt and light in your places of life? How does this challenge excite you? What feels difficult about being bright and salty?

\*How is the Spirit calling you to be present with mercy and the truth of Jesus' love?

\*Who can you learn about and celebrate as a neighbor?