



**Family
Conversation
Guide**

09.04.2022

September Theme:
We can shine with God inside!

Monthly Memory Verse:

"...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

- **Matthew 5:16** (ESV)

Monthly Challenge Verse:

"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go..."

- **Genesis 28:15** (ESV)

Week of September 4

Main Idea: We can shine with God inside!

Life Application:
God shines through us!



Parents: After listening to the sermon, take some time during the week to have great conversations with your kids. This week, we learn that **Jesus wants His followers to be salt and light in this world.** Read through **Matthew 5:13,14** as you lead your kids.

1. Read **Matthew 5:13.** **What does Jesus call us?** (*The salt of the earth.*) **What happens when salt loses its taste?** (*It is no longer good for anything- it should be thrown out.*) **How do you think we can be salt to the world?** (*Discuss thoughts on this.*)
2. **Who are you?** (*Your being, your character, your soul, your personality. God made you uniquely to do special things for Him!*)
3. In this week's sermon, we learned how God wants us to be "salt of the earth."

Here are some ways:

- God wants us to penetrate society for good with kingdom values. There is power in salt. **Salt can be an antiseptic, helping to clean.** We can be a moral antiseptic in this world, bringing kingdom values as we interact with people. **How can we penetrate our society?** (*Be willing to suffer with Christ, to love others unconditionally, and be willing to say the truth with boldness and gentleness.*)
- God wants us to preserve what is good, and oppose what is corrupt, or bad. **Salt can be used as a preservative, to keep food from spoiling and helping it stay fresh. What do we want to preserve in our society?** (*For example: Respect for others, love for Jesus, courage, honor, resilience, family values, etc.*) **What should we oppose?** (*For example: Hatred, oppression, racism, marginalizing, despising those who are not like us, etc.*)
- **God wants to use the little ones to influence the world.** You do not need to be in power or have a high position to be the salt of the earth: Those who are humble and meek, those who mourn, who hunger for righteousness, who have experienced brokenness, those who are insulted by others, those who are persecuted for their faith, those who are young- they can be salt in this world to influence others! Read **Matthew 5:1-11** and discuss. **Do any of these descriptions apply to you or to someone you know? What does Jesus say about these people?** (*They are blessed.*) And, we can be a blessing to others!
- **God wants us to be ready to lose everything for Christ.** The definition of salt is to be willing to leave everything behind us to follow Him- not just to love Him, but to love Him more than life itself. Read these words from the apostle Paul:

"Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ." **Philippians 3:8**

If we lose everything for Christ, what do we gain? (*We gain knowing Jesus as our Lord and Savior!*)

Digging Deeper:

Look at **Matthew 5:14-16**.

1. **What else does Jesus want us to do on this earth?** *(He tells us not to hide our light, but to shine the light of Jesus before others so that they can see our good works and give glory to our Father in heaven.)*
2. **How can we shine our light?**
3. **Where does our light come from? What is our “power source?”** *(Jesus gives us our light and His power to do good works to glorify Him.)*
4. **How can we stay “plugged in” to our power source?** *(Stay close to Jesus- reading God’s word, praying, talking about Jesus with others.)*

Family Challenge:

1. Give each child a small flashlight, or use a lamp to illustrate. Have them turn the lamp or flashlight on in a dark room. **Ask: What gives this light power?** *(Batteries, or being plugged in to electricity.)* **What happens if we lose our power source?** *(We can’t have light.)* **How can we stay plugged in to the light that Jesus wants us to bring into the world?** *(Discuss.)*
2. **Introduce this month’s memory verse:**
“...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” **Matthew 5:16**

Together, **make a poster and illustrate the verse.** Say it daily together at meal time!

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for teaching us that we need to be salt and light in this world. We want people to know about You and we want to make a difference in their lives by being salt and light. We love You! Amen