



*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Ask your group to think of a time when they saw something that looked good on the outside, but it was not so good looking on the inside. Maybe it is a piece of fruit, a home, or a vocation that comes to mind. Discuss how things are not always what they seem in life. Ask, "How are people sometimes the same way? What makes a person want to look good on the outside, yet be not so good on the inside?"

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Joshua 6:17-19, 26 and 1 Kings 16:34. Pastor mentioned several facts about Jericho. Using the sermon along with a study Bible or online resource discuss the history and significance of Jericho. Ask, "What was the curse associated with this city? What did King Ahab do in regard to Jericho during his reign?" Discuss what King Ahab's actions reveal about his spiritual condition and his kingdom.

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read 2 Kings 2:19. Jericho is the city mentioned in this verse. According to the people, Jericho was a city that looked good from the outside, yet its water supply was impure and caused the land to be unproductive. This affected the trade and economy of the city. Pastor showed that there is a spiritual analogy in Jericho's situation. **Read John 7:37-39.** Ask, "What is the significance of Jesus' words about water in this passage? What does the water represent?" Without the Holy Spirit, there is no salvation from sin and no productivity as a believer. Pastor mentioned that we receive the Holy Spirit at the moment of our conversion to Christ. The Holy Spirit not only cleanses us from sin but empowers us to live for God and lead others to God.

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read 2 Kings 2:20-22. God could have given up on the city of Jericho, but instead He used the prophet Elisha to reclaim the city. Ask, "What symbolic act did Elisha do to transform the city's water supply? Based on the "Be Salty" messages, what is the significance of salt in this story and in our lives?" Sometimes we think that one individual cannot make a real difference, but Elisha was a faithful servant of the Lord who accomplished a great transformation in Jericho even though he was one man. Discuss how we can be salty like Elisha.

DOING THE WORD

Pastor said, "True transformation will require self-sacrifice, and a lot of physical and emotional energy." Discuss how many churches want to help the poor, the addicted, and the broken, but they do not want to know the poor, the addicted, and the broken. God wants us to relate to everybody on a personal level and help bring to health and restoration to everybody regardless of their brokenness. **Read Galatians 2:20.** Ask, "How do Paul's words in this verse show us the way to "Be Salty?" Discuss this statement from our Pastor: "A Salty Church refuses to give up on people, on families, and on their city. There are no lost causes. God is still in the business of restoring and reclaiming lives; restoring and reclaiming families; and restoring and reclaiming communities and neighborhoods." Close with a time of prayer asking God to help us to be this kind of church in our community. "BE SALTY!"