A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

The Inside-Out Kingdom

Matthew 5:11-16

Slide 2:

Matthew 5:11-16 (ESV)

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Slide 3:

The "Path" we walk through the Sermon on the Mount

Anti-Religious Sermon

Two ways to get to God. They look alike but one is death and one is life.

Slide 4:

Only the one who has been built from the inside-out, and not the outside-in, can come from the outside to the inside.

Slide 5:

I. A Certain Kind of Salt

II. A Certain Kind of Light

III. A Certain Kind of Suffering

Slide 6:

Salt

Old Exposition

Salt means:

- a) A Christian flavors the world
- b) A Christian makes the world thirst
- c) A Christian is a valuable commodity

Slide 7:

Salt means:

His Kingdom is attracted to, and attractive to those on the outside vulnerable to decay Religion is the opposite

Slide 8:

It's impossible for pure salt to "lose it's saltiness."

Slide 9:

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

Slide 10: Light

Distinctiveness: "On a hill cannot be hidden"

Hope

Slide 11: Persecution

Slide 12:

Jesus persecuted by Religion because of His communication of Grace
Jesus persecuted by the World because of His unbending love and obedience to the Truth

Slide 13:

Matthew 5:17 (ESV)

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Slide 14:

Worldly people want a great party Religious people want a purified tribe

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1. Read the text that was covered...Matthew 5:11-16. What do you see? What would you like to point out to others? What are the questions you would ask of the text?
- 2. Explain why the "Religion vs Jesus' Kingdom" is a good path to walk through the Sermon on the Mount? Can you see the "two ways" that Jesus keeps presenting in these teachings? If so:
- 3. What are the "two ways" of salt? (Characteristics)
- 4. What are the "two ways" of light?
- 5. What are the "two ways" of persecution?
- 6. Explain how Jesus was different as salt, light and persecution than the religious leaders of His day.
- 7. Why is a Christian an easy target for persecution from the world (truth) and from established religion (grace). Have you seen or experienced suffering in these areas?
- 8. Prayer and Praise