

CONNECT GUIDE

June 11, 2023

On Higher Ground

Phyllis Sortor
Matthew 4:19, 5:14-16, 11:28

*"If I want to know who Jesus is, I must obey him.
The majority of us don't know Jesus because
we don't have the remotest intention of following Him."*

—Oswald Chambers

WELCOME

This week missionary Phyllis Sortor is preaching and showing a movie about her experience as a missionary in Nigeria. As you gather this week, discuss one or both of these questions:

- Who do you 'follow' on social media or in the news, etc.? What makes you interested in them?
- When was a time when you had to trust someone to lead you and what was that experience like?

WORD

Read **Matthew 5:14-16**

1. What stood out to you in the scripture? In the sermon this past Sunday?
2. What do you think is Jesus saying when he exhorts disciples that they are the salt of the earth? What does salt do that can be protective and restorative? What does this mean for the identity and purpose of the disciple?
3. How does this sermonette in verses 14-16 explain the nature of the kingdom? How does it relate to the beatitudes (verses 1-12)? How are Christians called to respond to society?
4. Jesus proclaims that disciples already are salt, light, and a city on a hill. How can disciples be light and a city on the hill and how do they put their light under a bowl?
5. What is the reason that Jesus gives for disciples to shine like a light?

Read **Matthew 11:28-30**

1. What is the rest that the Lord offers? What does it mean to be yoked?
2. Where is Jesus calling you to lay down heavy burdens and rest?

WORSHIP

Begin by spending a few minutes in silence together, just being and resting in God.

1. Bring to God the areas that each of you are longing for the rest Christ gives
2. Thank God for each other and God's grace in Jesus Christ
3. Pray for each other for their needs and that they would be light in the world.
4. Pray for the larger needs around you and the ways God is working around the world.

WITNESS

1. How does this passage inspire your sense of work and vocation, whatever that may be (whether parenting, retired, working full time, etc.)?
2. What is one way that you can intentionally be 'salty' and light this week to those around you?

SERMON NOTES: