



Table Group Discussion Guide

Series: The Spacious Life | Title: “Our Witness” | September 20, 2026

Looking Back (5 minutes)

Last week the challenge was to look at tomorrow — and over each thing on the calendar, pray “Holy Spirit, send me into this.”

- Quick round — one sentence each. Did you try it? Did anything look different?

Warming Up (10 minutes)

Jesus doesn’t say become salt or try to be light. He says you are. It’s a description before it’s an assignment.

1. Where do you spend most of your week — the place, the people, the room you’re in most? Name it out loud. That’s where you’ve been placed.

Getting Into the Word (25 minutes)

Scripture: **Matthew 5:13–16, Leviticus 2:13, Ephesians 5:8–9**

Read **Matthew 5:13** and **Leviticus 2:13** together. In the Old Testament, salt was the sign of a covenant that lasts — put it on every offering as a reminder that this promise doesn’t expire. So when Jesus calls ordinary people the salt of the earth, he’s saying something surprising: **your presence in a place is proof that God hasn’t given up on it.** And the job description is simple — **preserve the good, prevent the rot.**

2. Think about the place you just named. What’s actually good there that’s worth protecting? And what’s rotting that you have some small power to slow down? Be specific — not the whole industry, just your corner of it.

Read **Matthew 5:14–16** and **Ephesians 5:8–9**. If salt is looking around — what’s good here that I can preserve? — then light is looking up. Paul says light produces goodness, justice, and truth. Justice in the Bible just means the right ordering of things.

3. Same place. What does that room need to see about what God is like — his goodness, his sense of what’s right, his honesty? And what would it cost you to be the one who shows it?

Going Deeper with Each Other (25 minutes) *If your group has more than eight people, split into circles of three or four for these questions and come back together to pray.

Jeff named the thing that stops most of us: we look at the whole system, decide we can’t change it, and quietly check out of the place we’ve been put. Or we tell ourselves we’ll engage once conditions improve — once the supervisor changes, once the policy changes, once it gets easier. Wesley’s answer was blunt: do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the places you can, as long as ever you can.

4. Where have you checked out — a job, a family situation, a neighborhood, a relationship? What are you waiting for before you’ll engage again? And what could you actually do this week without waiting for anything?

Jeff made a distinction that’s easy to miss: the real city on a hill isn’t a country, a movement, or a president. It’s the church. Augustine wrote that while Rome was collapsing — even after Rome falls, the kingdom of Jesus will remain. The warning cuts both ways: we can disengage from the world, or we can over-invest our hope in something that was never going to last.

5. Be honest — where have you attached your hope to something that can fall? A nation, an institution, a career, a plan? What would change if your hope were genuinely anchored somewhere that can’t?

Pray for Each Other (10 minutes)

*Before you start: some of us have been following Jesus for a long time, some are newer at it, and some are still figuring out what they believe. All of that is welcome at this table. Nobody has to pray out loud, and nobody has to agree with something they haven't decided on yet.

Come back together as a whole group. Go around once — each person says just the name of the place they've been placed. "My classroom." "My shop." "My mom's house." "My street." No explanation.

After each person, the group says together:

"God has not given up on that place. And he put you there."

Then close by praying for whatever specific things came up tonight.

One Thing to Carry into the Week

Two questions, ten seconds. Tomorrow, before you walk into wherever you're going — the job, the classroom, the house, the appointment — stop and ask:

What's good here that I can preserve?

What of God is missing that I can show?

That's it. You don't have to change your schedule. You just have to walk in differently. Come back and tell someone what you noticed.