

Group Discussion Questions

Be the Light – Being an Influence for God

Use this sheet for your group discussion time, after completing the video lesson materials. Be sure to print, keep a copy, and review the written lesson materials as well. First pray. Then discuss. Through this discussion time, aim to develop solid ideas and plans for implementing lesson truths and ideas learned.

Discussion time is geared for about 30-minutes (but feel free to expand if needed or desired).

Appoint a group moderator/facilitator to help keep discussion focused, engaging for all, on-point, and on time.

Tips: Allotting 7-8 minutes per main question with sub-questions allows completion in 30-min. Assign a reader for each key passage, to look it up and be ready to read.

1) What has been God's plan for Israel and how does this apply to His Remnant? (Deut. 4:5-9)

- a. How do you think the world can better see our godly wisdom in application and teaching among us? How can this practically be used to attract the world to God and to having a relationship with Him (like we do)? What are some practical ways we can apply these biblical truths evangelistically to reach the world around us? List some ideas to share and God-willing, apply. (*Hint: how to get righteous, practical, biblical teachings and lifestyle examples before the people of the world around us? Let's do this*)
- b. What is the danger that exists for God's people, even today? (discuss v.9)
- c. What do you think are the best remedies to the existing dangers?

2) From Jesus' example, what can we glean for shaping our own local ministry to make it more effective, even as Jesus' was? (Matthew 4:23-25)

- a. What activities or programs can our church do that will truly fill a need in our local community and reach people where they are with Christ's love?

3) What counsel from Isaiah 58 do you find especially eye-opening or helpful in being a great light for God and His glory?

- a. What are the key components of God's "fast" which we should be doing as faithful believers today? (**v.6-7**) Have we been doing these things well? How can we do them better, by God's grace?
- b. What will be the results on us, our relationship with God, and others as we apply these principles and plans, making them a living reality in our lives? (**v.8-10**).
- c. What will this sort of ministry environment produce in the church and world? How will it affect missions and Sabbath-truth proclamation? (**v.12-13**)
- d. Are "healing ministry" and "God's fast" activities appropriate Sabbath activities, too? Why or why not? Would Jesus have done such things when He walked among us?

4) Jesus taught *practical love* for souls to be a hallmark of the faithful (Matthew 25:33-40).

Please read and discuss these verses, using the questions below.

- a. What practical ministry of love examples does Jesus mention here in this section?
- b. How does Jesus make this personal? Does our effort or lack of effort for others affect our relationship with Jesus? Does practical love for others tell of our love or lack of it for Him? If so, how can we be sure to strengthen the love of Jesus?
- c. How can we be sure to implement Christ's ministry plan of practical love in our local outreach efforts here in our church and community? What should we develop and strengthen?

Homework: This week, pray and think about the ministry activities that God wants you to be an ongoing part of. Share ideas with others. Be sure to meet and follow-up with others from this training to develop these ministries by God's grace and wisdom, as Jesus would have it to be.