

LEADERSHIP IS DISTINCTIVE

Read Matt 5 V13-16

This passage is from Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. It was intended for his followers and anyone else who wanted to hear him. Jesus is talking about how we should live as Christians in our broken and fallen world. The idea is that the way we live our lives should **lead** people to Jesus.

Read the following Artificial Intelligence definition of a Fallen World.

"fallen world" refers to the current state of humanity and the earth, marred by sin and imperfection, stemming from the disobedience of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, which resulted in the introduction of evil, suffering, and death into the world, impacting all creation; essentially, it means that the world is not as God originally intended it to be due to human sin. Leading to a broken and imperfect reality where everyone experiences the effects of that fall"

1. As Christians, we know that Jesus will save us and redeem us from this fallen state of decay and darkness. Why do you think he doesn't just remove us from the fallen world as soon as we become Christians?

2. Do you think it is important that we act in a way that glorifies God and reflects Jesus's love for everyone? If so, why?

3. a) Jesus says we should be like salt in the world. Given that salt is commonly used as a preservative and seasoning, why do you think Jesus uses this analogy?
b) Can you think of any examples where someone has 'sprinkled some salt' in your life? (Share if appropriate)

Read John 8 V12

4. a) Discuss why you think Jesus used the analogy of light to describe his people.
b) Are there any people in your life who really shine brightly (perhaps someone **led** you to Jesus and you became a Christian as a result)?

5. As we strive to be salt and light in the world, is sharing the gospel at every opportunity enough, or do you think there is more to it? If so, think of some practical examples of how we can be salt and light.

6. Do you think that being salt and light in the world is a form of leadership? If so, how?

7. Jesus is clear that it's possible for us to lose our saltiness and to cover our light. How do you think this happens?

8. Jesus is our ultimate example of being salt and light in the world. Chat about some of your favourite examples from the gospels where Jesus was salt and light to those around him.