



The City

The Unhideable Shineable Place

Checking In:

- As you think back on the last week, what stands out to you as the moment you felt God's favor most? Explain why.
- Share about a "win" that recently took place in the area you serve. What happened? Were you surprised? How did you celebrate that victory?

Sermon Discussion:

- Share about where you are from. What things are said about people from there? What are the stereotypes you've been faced with? How have you battled against those?
- When you think about a city that you love to visit, what stands out to you as the reasons why you like it so much? Is it just the sites? Are the people a factor at all? Have you ever been turned off by a place because of the people?
- Read **Matthew 5:13-16**. What would you say is the overarching theme of what Jesus is saying about us (his followers) here? What is our role? What are we supposed to do?
- Why is it important to think in terms of communal repercussions and not just personal repercussion when it comes to a lack in fulfilling our purpose? How do you see this factor into your context at work, school or home?
- The point of salt is not salt; it's the food its seasoning. The point of light is not light; it's the subject it's lighting. How often do you think of yourself as being the point of your life? Why do we all struggle with that? What does Jesus being the point look like for you and me; practically speaking?

Application Questions:

- The bottom line is: **WHERE YOU LIVE IS ALWAYS REVEALED BY HOW YOU LIVE.** What will it take for the church to reverse the assumptions the world makes about God based on how we live? Is it as simple as going to church more and cussing less? What will it *really* take?
- What is something you can share with your world that highlights our "city," as a group in the next month? Ask yourselves: Will it make people want to visit?
- Take a few minutes to start your *Inventory of Deduced Citizenship*. Describe yourself on paper—how you talk, how you treat others, the way you prioritize...everything. As you look over that inventory, where would you deduce you're from?