

## THE DISCIPLE'S DIRECTIVE

### MATTHEW 5:13-16

We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody that it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining-they just shine.

-D.L. Moody

#### I. **Preserving in Decay**

## **II. Proclaiming in Darkness**

## Small Group Application Questions

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### *A Note for our Virtual Groups*

We are only including two questions for discussion this week, instead of the usual four. Please use the extra time in your group for sharing. That includes sharing details of your daily life during this time of isolation. For families with school children, share the ups and downs of teaching them at home. If you are working from home, share stories about that, as well. Share the good and the bad from the time since you met together.

### *Getting to Know You*

1. What is your favorite seasoning—either a particular spice or an herb?

### *Into the Bible*

2. In Matthew 5:12 Jesus tells his disciples, “*You* are the light of the world”, but in John 8:12 Jesus says, “*I* am the light of the world.” How do we resolve the apparent paradox of these two statements? Read Ephesians 5:8-16. What does this passage say about how we become light in the world? Why does Paul say that we are put into the world as light? How should this make us act all the time, but especially in unsettled times like we are facing now?

### *Application*

3. Darkness does not exist independently of light; it is merely the absence of light. If we are to dispel the darkness around us, we must shine our light into it. Read John 1:4-5. How does this truth give us confidence in shining light into darkness? What specific ways can I make my light visible to those in darkness this week?

### *For Families*

6. Sing “This Little Light of Mine” with your children. If they don’t know it; teach it to them.