WEEK 44: OCTOBER 25 - 31
DISCIPLESHIP GROUP LESSON

MEETING AGENDA



1. **OPENING PRAYER** - Ask one person to open the meeting in prayer.
2. **GROWTH QUESTIONS** - Ask everyone the Growth Questions.
3. **ATTENDANCE**- Take attendance through the DG Attendance System.
4. **TODAY'S LESSON** - Go over this week's DG lesson.
5. **GIVING** - Encourage everyone to give on the App.
6. **CLOSING PRAYER** - Ask for prayer requests and pray.



GROWTH QUESTION #1

Who would like to share a highlight, praise report, or testimony from this week?



GROWTH QUESTION #2

What did you learn from this week's sermon?



GROWTH QUESTION #3

What was your most important accomplishment this week?

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT) *"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."*

INTRODUCTION

- A lighthouse isn't built where it's safe and comfortable. It's built where the storms are the strongest and where people need direction.
- The purpose of a lighthouse isn't to benefit the people inside of it, but to guide those who are lost.
- As believers, the light of Christ isn't just for our benefit. It's meant to lead others to Him.
- We cannot become so focused on avoiding darkness that we miss opportunities to reach the lost. Rather than hiding from Halloween or getting caught up in arguments about it, we can use it as a night to share the love of Christ with our neighbors.

- Jesus did not call us to isolate ourselves from the world. He sent us into it!
- Every week we knock on doors to look for opportunities to share Jesus but this Saturday, people who may never step foot inside of a church building will be walking right up to our front doors.
- We have an opportunity to turn our homes into lighthouses, shining the light of Jesus and reaching people who need Him.
- The church isn't called to hide from the darkness. We're called to TAKE BACK THE NIGHT!

INTERACTIVE QUESTION

What might keep you from sharing the love of Jesus with others, how can you overcome that?

TRUTH #1

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 8:12 (NLT) "Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

- Jesus made this statement during something called the Festival of Shelters ***(John 7:2)***
- During this festival, giant lamps were lit in the temple courts. Jewish tradition says the light filled every courtyard in Jerusalem.
- Jesus stands right near these lamps ***(John 8:20)*** and says: *"I AM the light of the world."*
- He is not "a light" but that He is "THE Light". He does not carry the Light. He IS the light.
- Light (phōs): light, brightness, the source that makes everything visible.

- The very first words God spoke over a dark world were "*let there be light.*" ***(Genesis 1:3 NLT).***
- God always deals with darkness by shining Light. He has never answered darkness with more darkness, He answers it with LIGHT.
- You don't get the light by admiring Jesus from a distance. You get it by walking behind him.
- You will never walk in darkness as long as you're following the Light.



INTERACTIVE QUESTION

Why is it important to recognize that Jesus isn't just a source of light, but THE Light of the world?

TRUTH #2

THE DARKNESS CAN NEVER OVERTAKE THE LIGHT

JOHN 1:5 (ESV) ***"****The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

- The word "shines" is present tense. Meaning that the light is still shining, right now, today.
- The phrase "has not overcome" is past tense. The darkness took its shot, and it missed.
- The light is too good and too strong. The darkness has tried in every way to overcome it, and it can't.
- **Overcome (katalambanō)**: to seize, to overtake, to lay hold of, to grasp.
- ***John 12:35 (NLT)*** *"Jesus replied, "My light will shine for you just a little longer. Walk in the light while you can, so the darkness will not overtake you. Those who walk in the darkness cannot see where they are going."*

- Darkness isn't a power, it's an absence of light. And the darkness can overtake you when you stop following the light.
- Light always exposes darkness. ***(Ephesians 5:13)*** When the light of Jesus shows up the darkness doesn't negotiate. It Leaves!
- The light doesn't expose you to shame you, it exposes you to bring you home.
- If the darkness never gets exposed, people will never see who God is, and they never repent.



INTERACTIVE QUESTION

If darkness cannot overcome the light of Jesus, why should we never consider someone too lost or too far gone to be reached by Him?

TRUTH #3

YOU ARE THE LIGHT, SO DON'T HIDE IT

Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT) *"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."*

- In the scriptures we just read, Jesus shows us what it means to live as the light of the world.
- Our identity is found in what Jesus says about us. "*You are the light of the world.*"
- Our position as believers is intentional "*Like a city on a hilltop.*" God didn't call us to blend in, He's placed us where others can see His light through our lives.

- The problem comes when we hide our light. When the flame is under a basket long enough, the flame will go out. When we keep our faith to ourselves, we're hiding the very light God wants to use to reach others.
- The purpose of our light is to reach others. The light isn't just there for the person who turned it on, it's there so that everyone in the room can benefit from it!
- Jesus gives us a command to let our light shine. He's telling us to put our faith into action!
- The same word for light (phōs) that Jesus used in *John 8:12* is the same word he uses in ***Matthew 5:14.*** HE GAVE YOU THE SAME LIGHT THAT HE IS!
- This Saturday remember that every kid in costume is a soul that Jesus died for. Every parent on your sidewalk is someone God sent to your door. Every knock is an open door for the gospel.
- The same light that darkness could never beat now lives in you, so don't hide it.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION

How does knowing that Jesus calls YOU the light of the world change the way you see your responsibility toward the lost?

CLOSING ACTION

Register your home now to bring prayer, hope, and Jesus to your neighborhood this Saturday and receive your outreach resources.

GIVING



Those who generously care for others will find themselves cared for in return.

Proverbs 11:25 (NLT)
The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Encourage everyone to give their tithes and offerings.

PRAYER



QUESTION #1
Who are you praying for to be saved?



QUESTION #2
Who can you invite to the next meeting?



QUESTION #3
What are your prayer requests?