

Sermon Discussion Guide
Summer on the Mount – Week 2
Salt and Light
July 18, 2021



Big Idea

If the world is a fruitless fig tree about to be chopped down, you are the fertilizer that God is using to express his patience. It's slow, it's patient, and it works.



Icebreaker

What is your preferred way to “kill time” while waiting for something?



Discussion Questions

1. Read **Luke 13:7**. When have you been quick to cut down? How long do you typically wait for something that isn't bearing fruit?
2. Read **Luke 13:8-9**. Why is waiting so difficult? What might you need to give another year?
3. Read **Matthew 5:13-16**. Do you feel like you are salt and light? Have you struggled with the feeling of not doing enough as a Christian?
4. In the sermon, we learned that salt does not go bad, and light is hard to hide. Christ-followers make a big difference wherever we go. Where have you seen the church make a difference? Where do you think you've made a difference personally?
5. A poll shared during the sermon found that the opinion of Christians improved during the pandemic. Have you seen that is the case? What can we do as the church to reflect Christ to the world more accurately?



Concluding Questions

Read **Matthew 5:16**. How can you help the fig tree bear fruit a year from now? What good deeds can you start doing today? Consider serving together as a group on a project in the community, such as 8 Days of Hope.



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Beyond prayer for each other, is there a way we can help each other apply these lessons?



Prayer

Possible prayer topics for this week:

- 8 Days of Hope
- Reflecting Christ to the community
- Patience for God's plans
- Practical ways to serve others