

Bible Study Questions on Matthew 5:10–16

Icebreaker : “Can you think of a time when standing up for something you believed in — whether at school, work, or in everyday life — felt difficult, but important?”

Read Mathew 5: 10-16

1. **Blessed in persecution:** Jesus says those who are persecuted for righteousness are “blessed.” How does this challenge our usual understanding of blessing?
2. **Persecution today:** What parallels can we draw between the persecution Jesus describes and the experiences of Christians worldwide today?
3. **Personal reflection:** Have you ever faced ridicule, opposition, or exclusion because of your faith? How did you respond?
4. **Salt of the earth:** What does it mean for Christians to be “salt” in society? How can salt lose its “saltiness” in practical terms?
5. **Light of the world:** Jesus calls us to be “light.” What are some ways we can shine in our communities without drawing attention to ourselves rather than to Christ?
6. **Hidden faith:** Why do you think Jesus warns against hiding our light? What are some modern ways believers might be tempted to hide their faith?
7. **Witness under pressure:** On Sunday we heard about some individuals who have been persecuted for their faith. How might the testimony of persecuted Christians inspire us to live more boldly in contexts where faith is tolerated but often ignored?
8. **Community impact:** Jesus says our good deeds should lead others to glorify God. What kind of actions or attitudes in our church could have that effect in Frimley/Camberley?
9. **Cost of discipleship:** What does this passage reveal about the cost of following Jesus, especially in places facing severe persecution? How can we prepare ourselves spiritually to face opposition?
10. **Encouragement and prayer:** How can we practically support persecuted Christians around the world, and what role does prayer play in strengthening both them and us?

Final Thought Challenge:

“This week, think of one specific way you can be ‘salt and light’ in your everyday setting — whether at work, home, or in your community. How will you let your faith be visible in a way that points others to God, even if it feels uncomfortable or costly?”