The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Fohn 10:10

Series: SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Title: Shine

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WARM-UP

"Mission Drift," affects all organizations as they tend to shift from their original mission, and often get off course. If you look at your life, and your overall mission, is it in line with the mission that Jesus has given his followers? What are some things that have a tendency to pull us "off course?"

DISCUSSION

- 1. The metaphors of salt and light implies an influence or engagement in culture. In what ways do you see God already working through Christians to be salt and light in our culture? Can you identify an area of your life where God is pressing you to be more "salty?" and "shiney?"
- 2. Jesus says that Christians are supposed to have a similar effect in our culture that salt has in meat, and light has with darkness. The key to this is that we are supposed to have this effect, but He also warns that may not be the case (salt that is not salty, and a light that is under a basket). In your life, what are some of the things that keep you from having the effect in your culture that you know God wants you to have? Specifically: What are some things that might dilute your "saltiness" and your "shininess?"
- 3. This Life Group setting is the best place to discuss what it is practically going to look like to be "salt and light," in your particular family, work setting, sports team, or community organization. Spend some time discussing how you think God is leading you to implement Matthew 5:13-16.
- 4. We must pick up the challenge to "listen" to the cries of our culture in order to discern ways that we can enter, and show the love of Christ to people who desperately need it. As a group, can you identify ways in which our culture is "crying out" for help? Think of as many examples as you can of our culture "crying out" for help, then spend time in prayer asking God to show you, your Life Group, our church, and the global church to enter into the lives of people who may look "ok," but who are deeply broken, and hurting on the inside.