ICEBREAKER: What was your favorite subject in high school and why?

LARGE GROUP QUESTIONS:

(Read Matthew 5:14-16) Jesus declared to his disciples, "You are the **light of the world**." Jesus explained to his disciples their **faith in Him** made them light in a dark world. However, Jesus warned against **hiding** or **being ashamed** of expressing one's light of faith.

1. What are reasons you have seen Christians hide or be ashamed to express their faith in Jesus?

(Read Luke 8:16) Jesus explains the **purpose** of the lamp is **not for itself**, but "so that **those** who come in can **see the light**." The lamp is to shine **not for itself**, but **for others**. However, in so shining, the lamp will light up all that surrounds it, all that was previously in the dark.

In the same way, our faith in Christ not only reveals the truths about God, but also the **truths about others**, including the good, the bad, and the ugly in their lives.

2. How has your light in Jesus ever brought conviction to others?

(Read Mark 4:21-22) Jesus stated the lamp is **never hidden** under a jar or under a bed. Rather, it is "**put on its stand**" for **all to see**. When Christians come to faith in Jesus Christ, they **lose their right** of **privacy**.

While unbelievers in the world can claim their right to privacy, disciples of Jesus understand their **lives** and **faith** are **put on a stand** for **any and all to see**. Jesus calls us to be willing to uncover all our struggles, failures and victories for any and all who ask.

3. What one **private**, even **painful area** in your life has Jesus called you to **openly share** so as **to give light** or **hope** to others?

(Read verses 23-25) Jesus warns us to "consider carefully what you hear." To those who hear His truths and obey them in their lives, they will be given more. To those who hear His truths and do not obey them, even those truths will be taken from them.

When we obey a **Biblical truth**, its **benefits** are **multiplied** in our lives. Plus, obedience to one Biblical principle opens us to see other Biblical principles. However, when we do not apply a Biblical principle, both its truth and its benefits are lost to us.

4. Describe one **Biblical truth** you not only know, but **have obeyed** that has **made** a **significant difference** in **your life**?

Cut along Dotted Line & use Prayer List as Bible Book Marker
Prayer Group Time
(Make a list of people whom those in your group plan to share Christ with this week.)