

Life Group Work Sheet Ephesians 5:7-14 My Life Can Make a Difference

April 27, 2014

Getting to Know Each Other

- What did you do for Easter? Did you attend service at CrossWinds? What was the most memorable part of celebrating the resurrection for you this year?
- God often uses our actions to provide an opportunity to share about his love with others. Share a time when your good deeds provided a platform to talk about your faith. Describe how you felt after this opportunity.

Part 2 - Application

- 3. Read Ephesians 5:7 and 1 Corinthians 5:9-10. Paul tells us that we should not become partners with non-Christians. What does it mean to "partner" with non-Christians? With that in mind, consider the following situations. Are they considered "partnering"? What would you do in each situation?
 - A non-Christian friend of yours wants to get season tickets to your favorite college sports team with you.
 - b. Your daughter begins to date a man who considers himself to be a Christian, but you do not see any fruit of new birth.
 - c. Some Mormons from down the street want to do a service project with you and your Life Group.
 - d. Are there any situations from your past where these verses come into play? Share with the group.

- 4. Read Ephesians 5:8, Colossians 1:13-14, and John 8:12. Paul tells us that Christians have undergone a radical change in identity from darkness to light. Where does this identity change come from? Why is this identity change important?
- Read Ephesians 5:8-10. Paul tells us to live in this new identity as Christians, and then gives us a few examples of what this looks like.
 - a. Define goodness. Why is goodness important to God? What does cultivating goodness look like in your life?
 - b. Define righteousness. Why is righteousness important to God? What does cultivating righteousness look like in your life?
 - c. Define truth. Why is truth important to God? What does cultivating truth look like in your life?

This Little Light of Mine. . .

"This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine." In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us:

""You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

(Matthew 5:14-16 ESV)

Many times our good deeds will lead to conversations with others about the good news of the gospel. Yet Jesus does not guarantee these conversations; he only tells us that God will be glorified in our good deeds. With this passage in mind, think of the ways that you can be light to those who are around you for God's glory.

- What is one small thing you can do <u>everyday</u> to shine the light of Christ in your community?
- 2. What is one significant thing that you can do **this month** to shine the light of Christ in your community?
- 3. What is one radical, revolutionary thing that you can do **this year** to shine the light of Christ in your community?