



...IT'S  
WHO  
WE  
ARE

...IT'S  
WHO  
WE  
ARE

WHO WE ARE - PAGE 1  
MONEY FOR NOTHING - PAGE 3  
ASK! - PAGE 5  
BE REAL - PAGE 7

# WHO WE ARE

Warm up question: What are your top 3 aims in life?

Read Matthew 5:13-16

Think - Spend 5 minutes thinking about this passage:

- What stands out to you?
  
- How is Jesus using the image of light here?
  
- What impact should God's people have on their communities?

Pair - chat in a pair about what you've got.

Share - as a big group talk through those questions

Together:

- Why does Jesus say, "You are" salt & light, rather than, "You should be," or "Try to be"?
  
- When does salt get thrown underfoot? How would we know spiritual if we have our 'saltiness'?
  
- How is being the light of the world more than just 'me' and 'my' faith?

# WHO WE ARE

Apply: Vision

Southside's vision is to make and grow disciples of Jesus - to reach 1% of our community.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of a vision statement like ours?

To be the light of the world, what do you think is 'the church's' responsibility, and what is 'our' responsibility?

To be salt and light is a description of who we are and what we do.

What is one practical example of the following:

How can you be salt and light tomorrow?

How can you be salt and light this weekend?

How can you be salt and light in the next month?

# PRAYER

How has God been at work in your life this week?

How are you going with God?

How are you going at being the light of the world to others around you?

What can we pray for from the study tonight?

Who are you on mission to and what can we pray for them this week?

# MONEY FOR NOTHING

Warm up question: Have you ever fallen for a scam, been ripped off, taken for a \$ ride? How?

Read Matthew 6:19-24

Think - Spend 5 minutes thinking about this passage:

- What stands out to you?
  
- What kind of people might Jesus be talking to? Why?
  
- What does storing up treasures in heaven mean?

Pair - chat in a pair about what you've got.

Share - as a big group talk through those question

Together:

- Does our treasure impact the state of our heart, or does the state of our heart impact what we treasure (also see Luke 12:33-34)? Can they both be true? How?
  
- Jesus doesn't say, "Why don't you consider storing up treasures in heaven," He commands it - it's what His followers do. Why is this a non-negotiable for Jesus?
  
- Storing up treasures in heaven means using your money in ways that have eternal significance (Heaven doesn't need your money). How is this the same, or different to the Old Testament principle of tithing?

# MONEY FOR NOTHING

Apply: Vision

Southside's vision is to make and grow disciples of Jesus - to reach 1% of our community.

How should giving to things that have eternal significance, a) guide what/who you give to? b) shape our church budget?

If money can be a real danger to our hearts, as well as a way to helpfully live for heaven, how can we keep encouraging each other in our group and not just finish the discussion this week?

What is "Give us your best guess?"

Our Committee of Management (CoM) works hard to make every cent of our budget serve our Mission to 'make and grow disciples of Jesus'. To support what we're doing, and grow our ministries to reach more people for Jesus, we're asking for your help to see what we can afford to do next year. Rather than the CoM having their best guess for your giving to ministry at Southside next year, we'd like you to help our CoM by giving them your 'best guess' for your giving. You'll find more details at church and in the weekly email.

# PRAYER

How has God been at work in your life this week?

How are you going with God?

How are you going at storing your treasures in heaven?

What can we pray for from the study tonight?

Who are you on mission to and what can we pray for them this week?

# ASK!

Warm up question: Why is it that some people pray even when they don't believe in God?

Read Matthew 7: 7-11

Think - Spend 5 minutes thinking about this passage:

- What stands out to you?
- What reasons are there to pray?
- What is Jesus teaching us about our Father God?

Pair - chat in a pair about what you've got.

Share - as a big group talk through those question

Together:

Read Matt 6:5-14. What similarities are there to 7:7-11? And, what other things does it also say about how we pray?

What should our relationship with God be like if we are asking Him for things (or commanding God, in the case of the Lord's Prayer)? Are we afraid of overstepping our place?

Why doesn't Jesus doesn't say, "Why don't you try asking God," or "When you find time why not pray," but he commands His followers to, "Ask" and "seek"? By saying, "When we pray" (6:5), He assumes that's what people do as disciples of Jesus. What makes praying such an easy thing to neglect?

# ASK!

Apply: Vision

Southside's vision is to make and grow disciples of Jesus - to reach 1% of our community.

Why is prayer important for us in all that we do?

What confidence can we have that God will use us to reach our community for Jesus?

What does it look like for you to pray for what happens at church? Share some ideas of the kind of thing we should be praying for.

Have you seen answers to prayer at Southside?

Did you get a 3,2,1 prayer card on Sunday? Why is it important to be committing daily for the people in our lives who don't know Jesus?

# PRAYER

How has God been at work in your life this week?

How are you going with God?

How are you going at making prayer as a part of your life?

What can we pray for from the study tonight?

Who are you on mission to and what can we pray for them this week?



# BE REAL

Warm up question: Have you ever felt someone was being fake? What was that like and have you ever been wrong?

Read Matthew 7: 13-23

Think - Spend 5 minutes thinking about this passage:

- What stands out to you?
  
- What do we learn about salvation?
  
- What do we learn about people being misled?

Pair - chat in a pair about what you've got.

Share - as a big group talk through those question

Together:

What does a "real Christian" look like?

What does a "real Christian" and not look like?

How does the context of the sermon of the mount (chapter 5-7) help explain how the narrow road is difficult?

Why does Jesus use such strong language when talking about "false prophets"? Is this still a danger for us today?

How should we feel about Jesus' ability to pick a fake? If someone looked at your last 24 hours - what would they say about your heart?

# BE REAL

Apply: Vision

Southside's vision is to make and grow disciples of Jesus - to reach 1% of our community.

How does authenticity in church impact what we do and our mission?

Should we be discouraged by the picture of the narrow road (vs 13-14) or spurred on all the more for mission? Why?

When people see Southside, what would it look like for them to see "good fruit":

On a Sunday:

In our homes:

In social situations:

Give us your best guess

Being genuine about our faith is who we are as followers of Jesus. Bearing "good fruit" is something that naturally happens as followers of Jesus, it's what we do.

Please help us with planning our ministries for next year by considering the "Give us your best guess" and return the card at church or the online form. We'd love to see more and more people find true life in Jesus and choose the narrow road.



# PRAYER

How has God been at work in your life this week?

How are you going with God?

How are you going at bearing “good fruit” in your walk with God?

What can we pray for from the study tonight?

Who are you on mission to and what can we pray for them this week?

...IT'S  
WHO  
WE  
ARE