

U N A N S W E R E D

UNANSWERED: Why Has Christianity Done So Much Harm?

Objective: [1 minute]

To further our understanding of what God intends for the Church and Christianity to represent to the world.

Theme Verse: [1 minute]

Matthew 5:13-16

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Group Time: [15 minutes]

This would be an great opportunity for an Icebreaker to get everyone sharing and involved. Leaders should set the tone by volunteering to “go first” if necessary. Make sure to include time to introduce new group members. Make this time fun and light in order to create a comfortable environment.

Weekly Video: [if applicable, 5 minutes]

Discussion: [40 minutes]

Action: [5 minutes]

At the bottom of this guide we have included a link to a very helpful resource for this and other hard questions that you and your group members might have or encounter. **Also, consider looking at outreach opportunities via victoryatl.com/localoutreaches or a group giving opportunity with victoryatl.com/heartofthehouse**

Prayer: [10 minutes]

As you close the group session, pray together as a group and encourage group members to join you for the next scheduled Small Group. Remember, your group should be a safe place to share.

Key Discussion Questions:

1. “Why has Christianity caused so much harm” is a popular question asked by many people. Share of time when you have encountered this question from someone or asked it yourself.
2. In many ways, the identity of what it means to be a true Christian has been stolen. How have you seen this in your experience?
3. Our goal as Christians is to give the world an accurate representation of who God really is. How can the Church be a model of this for the world? (Matthew 5:13-16 is a helpful verse) ****Encourage real-world, practical answers**
4. What is a commitment that YOU are willing to make today to actively show those in your world what TRUE Christianity looks like? ****Encourage real-world, practical answers**

Additional Resource: <http://bit.ly/2HlAcfG> - Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties (Gleason Archer)