



LIVING IN THIS WORLD

There are many people who want to go and live in another country. It may be because they cannot find a job in their own country, or they think that it is better to live somewhere else, so they try to become a citizen there. When we give our lives to Jesus we become citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven, and one day we will go to live with Him in that Kingdom, but He still wants us to stay here in this world, even though we do not belong to it.

1. WE DO NOT BELONG TO THIS WORLD

Just before Jesus left this world He prayed for His disciples and all those who would believe in him. That includes you and me! Read part of this prayer in John 17:14-21

✝ What did Jesus mean when he said, 'they do not belong to this world'?

v14 _____

✝ What reason does Jesus give for not taking us out of this world?

V18 _____

✝ Although it is not always easy to live as a Christian, what comfort does Jesus' prayer give us?

V15 _____

We may be criticized or even hated for following Jesus, but He has a purpose here for us on this earth. Jesus gave two illustrations of what our lives are to be like that will help us understand how we are to live in this world.

2. WE ARE THE SALT OF THIS WORLD



✝ What does Jesus say we are to be like?

Matthew 5:13 _____

✝ What is salt used for? Think of 3 uses for salt.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

💡 Why do you think Jesus says we are the 'salt of the earth'? Discuss.

✝ What happens if salt loses its' flavor? What does this teach us about how we should live?

V13 _____

Salt is very important. We are to be like salt, so that our presence here helps prevent the world from becoming totally sinful and coming under God's judgment. Just as salt makes a difference in the food we eat, so we are to make a difference to those around us.

3. WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



✝ In the second illustration what does Jesus say we are to be?

Matthew 5:14-16 _____

✝ What is the importance of light? Think of 3 reasons why light is so important.

💡 Jesus said, "Don't hide your light". How can you be like light in the place where you study or work?

We know that Jesus is called 'The Light of the World', but He tells us that we too are to be like lights. He has given us new life, but if this life is hidden it is of no use. He wants our lives to shine like lights on a dark night, so others will see the way to go, and come to know Him too.

✝ Why is it not enough to just believe in God? Find two reasons in James 2:17-20, 26

💡 Can you think of someone you know whose life has been like a light to help you know Jesus? What 'good deeds' did they do that touched your heart?

We are all in this world, but we are to be different to those in the world. Although we now belong to the Kingdom of God, He has left us here to be like salt and light, so others will also come to know Him. Have you ever seen insects flying around a light bulb or lantern? Let's pray that our lives will be like light that attract others to Jesus. Wherever you go remember you are now the 'salt' and the 'light'.



Do you think your life is making a difference?
Share any needs and then pray for one another.

Memory Verse

"You are the light of the world – like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see."

Matthew 5:14