

Discussion Guide for Impact and Persecution: Part 5

1. Read Acts 4:13-37 and review the sermon outline.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth: As ambassadors for Christ in this world, we have the essential job of shining as lights, promoting God's good ways, and exposing and resisting evil.

Read Matthew 5:10-16

- How does persecution relate to our job as light in a dark world and salt in a decaying world?
- What is the thing worth standing up for & suffering for in 5:10?
- What are some specific standards of righteousness that are under attack today?
- What do you think is the best approach to promoting righteousness in our personal relationships?
- What do you think is the best approach to promoting righteousness in the public arena?
- What is the thing worth standing up for and suffering for in 5:11?
- What might be some examples of being persecuted for "Christ's name sake"?
- What are the two motivations for faithfulness in 5:12?
- How does the suffering and success of believers who went before us motivate you to faithfulness?
- Who in your life has been an inspiration when it comes to faithfulness in the face of opposition?
- What role does our standing for truth and righteousness play in God's plan in 5:16 & how does this motivate you to endure?