

## **Cell Material – Week Beginning 12.3.07**

### **Salt and Light**

*\*In preparation for this cell material you will need to gather some recent newspapers – local and national. You will also need several pairs of scissors. A large candle and some night lights.*

#### **Welcome**

Who do you admire? It might be someone from history, someone alive today, someone you've seen on TV or someone you all know. What is it about that person that makes you admire them?

#### **Word**

Give everyone a newspaper between two – look through and cut out any evidence you find there that the world is in a mess – look for

- People going away from God's laws and getting into trouble.
- People who are empty and searching for something to fill the gap in their lives.
- Larger scale social injustice.

Share your findings with the group.

#### **Romans 12**

In your opinion how much influence does Christianity have on contemporary values in Western society?

In what ways are the values of the people in your cell different from 'the pattern of this world'?

How can we be 'in the world but not of it'? How many non-Christian friends do you have? Do you influence them or do they influence you? Do they see you behaving differently in a way that draws them to the Lord? Which is the greater temptation for you – to avoid the world or to be too much like it?

#### **Matthew 5 vs 13-16**

What are the defining marks of a true Christian?

In what way is it possible for our good deeds to point to our heavenly Father? Do you have any experience of something you have done or seen another person do making an impact as 'salt' in our society? (small scale or large scale).

Is secret discipleship a contradiction in terms? Why?

#### **Worship and Witness**

1. Pray about some of the situations you read about earlier in the newspapers.

2. How can you commit to being a light in your community? Light a large candle in the middle as a symbol of Jesus *the* light of the world. Give each person a small night light. Invite everyone to come and light their night light from the big candle and hold it or put it on the table around the big candle. Spend some time in silence (or listening to some music) and invite everyone to silently make a commitment to God to be a light in their home, work place, neighbourhood, leisure activities this week. Think about how you can practically show the light of Jesus; make a difference and how your life might point to your heavenly Father. Take your night-lights home and relight them during the week as you pray to make a difference and pray to be distinctive in the world. Pray for each other in your different situations.