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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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Prayer Requests:

**Group Discussion:** Have you ever had an electrical outage at your home or work? Does the outage create real hardship or minor inconvenience?

**Read out loud:** Luke 8:16-21

Answering 2 questions to apply truth to my life means:

#1. Will I accept my identity as light? Describe a person you really feel is enlightened. What are their character traits? If you were going to improve one character trait what would it be?

John Powell says in *Why am I afraid to love*, "It is almost a truism in contemporary psychology that one's image of himself lies at the root of most human conduct." Have you ever seen a child succeed or fail because they believed they could or couldn't?

George Fox, Society of Friends (Quakers,) says, "God reveals Himself within each individual's conscience...by the Holy Spirit...to illumine man's sinfulness and lead in the way of truth..." Do you remember when you became aware of, or felt guilty because of your sinfulness? Does the Holy Spirit speak to your conscience when you know you're actions or attitudes are getting out of line?

#2. Will I engage in active listening?

*The Question That Never Goes Away...Why?* Philip Yancey

"God has commissioned us as agents of intervention in the midst of a hostile and broken world." (pg.47). Have you been with people who were suffering, traumatized or grieving? Did they ask, "Why?" What was your response?

I believe every passage in the Bible involving suffering changes the discussion from why (cause) to who (response.) How is God a help to people in the middle of suffering? Do you think people feel closer or further away from God during suffering?

**Family Time:** Read Luke 8:16 and talk with your kids about all the different ways they use light. Play what thing is different than the others. Get in a dark room or a closet and put some items in wrong places. Put a shoe on a hanger etc. Sit in the middle of the closet and take a flashlight and shine it on one place and ask them what is out of place. Talk about how God uses His Word, the Bible, to bring light into our lives so that He helps us know when our actions or attitudes are out of place.