

## GOD'S GIFT OF PURPOSE FOR YOU

### God's Gift to Us this Christmas

"Let Me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt seasoning... You're here to be light... God is not a secret to be kept. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand – shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives.

By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven." Matthew 5:13-16, (MSG)

#### Stinging salt, glaring light:

- In - Your - \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity
- Holier – Than - \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity

#### Savory salt, illuminating light:

##### 1. A \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity

"And Mary said, 'Yes, I see it all now: I'm the Lord's maid, ready to serve. Let it be with me just as you say.' Then the angel left her." Luke 1:38 (MSG)

"For God has bought you with a great price. So use every part of your body to give glory back to God because he owns it." 1 Corinthians 6:20 (TLB)

"You all were bought at a great price, so do not become slaves of people." 1 Corinthians 7:23 (NCV)

##### 2. A \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity

"While he was trying to figure a way out, he had a dream. God's angel spoke in the dream: ... Then Joseph woke up. He did exactly what God's angel commanded in the dream: He married Mary. But he did not consummate the marriage until she had the baby. He named the baby Jesus. Matthew 1:20-24 (MSG)

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.' This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' These two commands are pegs; everything in God's Law and the Prophets hangs from them." Matthew 22:37 (MSG)

"If you love only those who love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:46-48 (NLT)

##### 3. A \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity

Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It had been just as the angel had told them. Luke 2:20 (NCV)

"If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me." John 12:26 (MSG)

##### 4. A \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity.

"Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:25-26 (NIV)

"Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal." John 12:24 (MSG)

"I will give you one heart and a new spirit; I will take from you your hearts of stone and give you tender hearts of love for God, so that you can obey my laws and be my people, and I will be your God." Ezekiel 11:19-20 (TLB)