

The People of Jesus: Salt & Light

April 21, 2024 with Pastor Scott Whitford

1. Introduction

- Steak Seasoning
- Fumbling in the dark

Matthew 13:44-46 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”

2. The Nature of Salt

- Preservative
- Flavouring
- Fertilizer (in the right amount)

3. The Nature of Light

- Dispels Darkness
- Allows for movement, activity
- Attracts

Designed for Impact

Preserving society (the legacy of the Church)

- Science, math, hospitals, orphanages, nursing, social justice, architecture, literature, art
- Areas of great impact from believers in history

Seasoning the World

- Being the presence of Jesus for others

2 Corinthians 2:15 “For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.”

- Living out: love, grace, encouragement

Attracting People With Our Light

- Practice makes perfect

Mark 9:50 “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

Pushing Back the Darkness

- Through prayer
- putting on the armour of God
- through worship

Ephesians 6:10-18¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people

Jesus Questions:

- In what ways have you made me to influence the world around me?
- Who have you put in my life for me to be salt and light to?

Ways to be Salt & Light

- volunteering (in the church, in the community)
- developing deeper relationships (in the church, in the community)
- it starts with love, so we must ask the Lord to increase our love (for Him & others)