

Salt and Light

Introduction:

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus calls his followers to be the “salt of the earth” and the “light of the world.” God has placed gifts in each of us that add flavor and brightness to the world. These gifts aren’t meant to be hidden or kept to ourselves. We are each called to use those gifts and let our light so shine to positively influence those around us. The light we shine isn’t for the sake of our shining though. It is meant to give glory to God and point people to Jesus, “the one true light”. As we turn to him, we reflect his light back into the world so that others can see and experience his truth, grace, and goodness. As Christians, we are called to experience and reflect God’s goodness. As we rely on God, taking refuge in Him and keeping His commandments, our lives and how we present ourselves to the world testify to His goodness and righteousness.

Read Your Bible

- Psalm 34: 8
- Matthew 5:13-18
- John 1: 1-9

Apply God’s Word to Your Life:

1. Discuss a time you ate a piece of food that was bland and flavorless? What was your reaction?
2. In a world of social media and curated images, how important is lighting?
3. What impact does poor lighting have on how a subject is presented?
4. Are you a person who enjoys the spotlight? Or someone who enjoys being in the background? In either case, discuss a time where you either took credit for or hid your light.
5. Using these passages as reference, what could we consider our responsibility as followers of Jesus?
6. Discuss three ways you experience God’s goodness.
7. Discuss three ways you as an individual or a group can reflect His goodness back into the world for His glory.

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son, Jesus, “the one true light who gives light to everyone.” Thank you for the bright and flavorful roles you have called us to in this world. Please help us to be faithful representatives of Your Kingdom by reflecting Your goodness and righteousness into the world. We pray this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.