

Called To Be Salt and Light

Matthew 5:13-16

1. We are called to spread salt in a world full of decay.

The preserving effect of salt is the main idea Jesus has in mind in this analogy. But salt can't preserve if it isn't first pure. And if it isn't pure, it isn't useful.

A. As salt in the world, we must protect our purity.

Matthew 5:13a | You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?

B. As salt in the world, we must preserve our usefulness.

Matthew 5:13b | [if salt has lost its taste]...It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

Luke 14:35 | It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear let him hear.

2. We are called to shine light in a world full of darkness.

Matthew 5:14a | You are the light of the world.

We are called to be light in the darkness of this world as a beacon to the suffering sinner offering a way to see and find their way to Christ.

A. The church as a whole must shine its light.

Matthew 5:14 | You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

B. The individual Christian must shine his/her light.

Matthew 5:15 | Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

3. We are called to share truth to a world that is dying.

Jesus' illustrations raise a question: How can I know if I'm being salt and light?

Matthew 5:16 | In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.