

## **“Lightly Salted”**

Pastor Jeff Alexander + February 5, 2017

Disciples are blessed by Jesus.

Made righteous in His sight by grace through faith, we are called to live righteously as we walk in obedience to the Lord.

We are blessed to be a blessing.

### **Matthew 5:13**

Jesus said, “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.”

Being salty means being useful. *How many different uses for salt can you think of?*

Losing our saltiness means losing our usefulness as followers of Christ. This happens when we fail to put our faith into action.

### **Colossians 4:5-6**

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Like salt, our words and actions should enhance people’s hunger and thirst for the Lord.

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

Jesus said, “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Light is a universal symbol for what benefits people.

Since He provides the greatest benefit of all, Jesus describes Himself as “the light of the world.”

### **John 8:12**

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Even now, Jesus continues to be the Light, shining throughout the world by means of His people!

### **Philippians 2:14-16**

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.

*What is the main purpose of being “salt” and “light”?*

“What Jesus calls ‘good works’ here is the exercise, expression, and confession of the teaching about Christ...Shining is the real job of believing or teaching, by which we help others to believe.”

**MARTIN LUTHER**