

Living as Kingdom Witnesses

Matthew 5:13-16

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- **Context**

- **Kingdom Ethic** = how we should live in light of who Christ is.
- **Main Idea** = The ethic of the Kingdom, lived out by heirs of the Kingdom, results in a witness for the Kingdom!

- 13 “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.”

- 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

- 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.”

- A disciple not being light is ridiculous. Like putting a lamp under a basket.
- Giving light is not optional
- Giving light is the nature of a disciple

- 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.”

- Makes the motivation clear: So that others will give glory to the Father.
- To let your light shine is to be on mission.

- **Main Takeaways**

- The ETHIC of the Kingdom, lived out by HEIRS of the Kingdom, results in a WITNESS for the Kingdom!
- We (heirs) are the plan

2 Cor 5:18-20 “All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message

of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.

- We must be in the world but not of the world
  - Two ditches here:
    - Holy Huddle (separatist)
      - Matt 10:16 “Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”
    - Worldliness (Friendship with the world)
      - James 4:4 “You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?”
      - Remember: Salt can lose its saltiness (v13)
        - Revelation 3:15-16 “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”
        - Do you look like the world?
- What does it mean to be salt and light?
- What does it look like for our speech to be salty?

Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

- Does our speech exude Christ? Is Christ on our lips?
- Being salt and light in this world will come at great cost!
- What are you afraid of?

Matt 10:28 “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”