

Living Life As Salt and Light

Matthew 5:13-16

When we serve as Jesus commanded, using our gifts and talents to meet the needs of people around us, we become salt and light to people, pointing them to God.

In our day and age of big thinking and large images, why did Jesus commission us to be salt and light? Salt and light are strange figures. Why not appeal to our pride? He could have motivated us by saying, "You're the eagles of the world." Or, "You're the lions of the world." Or, "You're the stars of the world." But, rather, Jesus said, "You are the salt-seasoning of the earth. You are the light-bearers in the world." Why? Understanding why Jesus used these terms reveals the substance of our influence.

I. What Is The _____ of Salt and Light?

I think the reason Jesus chose these two metaphors - salt and light - is because of their unique qualities. Both carry enormous influence. Both have immediate impact. Both are noticed instantly. Both are difficult to veil. Both are ubiquitous.

A. Salt

What are its uses?

1. Salt is a _____.
2. Salt is a _____.
3. Salt is an _____.
4. Salt creates _____.

B. Light

Jesus not only says that we are the salt of the earth, he also says we are the light of the world. The dictionary defines light as a "source of illumination."

1. Light Dispels _____.
2. Light _____.
3. Light _____.

4. Light _____.

II. How Do We Have An Eternal _____?

A. Recognize that your _____ makes a difference.

B. Stay close to _____.

C. Make your works _____.

III. The _____ of Our Influence.

A. We are the salt of the _____.

B. We are the light of the _____.

To reduce it to anything less would be tantamount to restricting the power, authority, and grace of our Lord. He has informed us that the whole world is the sphere in which our influencing activities are to be lived out. The entire world is to feel the seasoning influence and see the lightning impact.

We aren't called to save the world. But we are called to make a difference. We can't do everything. But we can do something. And what we can do, we ought to do. That's what being salt and light is all about.