

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

The Influence of Salt and Light

With Jeremy Vasic
May 12, 2024



Matthew 5:13-16 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.

14 “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. **15** No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

The influence of Jesus' followers on the world is likened to salt and light.

The influence of Jesus' followers on the world is necessary.

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

Jesus' followers give the world a craving for more.

The role of Jesus' followers is to enlighten the world around them.

Daniel 12:3 Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever.

“God’s mission is to redeem a broken creation through the life, death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus, through the gift of the Spirit to God’s people, in order to bring creation into its perfect order.” -Scot McKnight

Good deeds done with pride steal God's glory from Him.

Big Idea: Embrace your role of being salt and light as Christ's ambassador.

“When Jesus calls his disciples ‘the salt’, instead of himself, this transfers his efficacy on earth to them. He brings them into his work.” -Dietrich Bonhoeffer

We lose our influence when we become diluted by the world around us.



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

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- 1) What has God revealed to you through the **Gospel Reading Challenge** this week? What have you learned or been able to apply?
- 2) Read Matthew 5:13-16. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in this passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is implied in the passage for us? What did Jesus mean to be salt and light?
- 5) How do you view your influence to the world as a follower of Jesus?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage?



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