

**Sermon: Salt and Light.**  
**Series: *Gathering and Scattering***

**Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16.**  
**Date: June 30, 2024**

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about us?**

- a) What does Jesus' call for us to be "salt and light" tell us about the world we live in?
- b) Salt is a change agent, it makes things different. Do you believe that your presence is making a difference where you are? In what ways? Remember Jesus doesn't say "be salt." He says "you ARE salt." Does this change your answer to the question?
- c) Jesus warns about "losing our taste" (v.13). In what ways might you be losing your salty taste/zest? Remember this comes as salt is diluted.

**2. What does this passage teach us about God?**

- a) Look closely at verse 16 again. What does it teach us about God and our relationship to him as our Father?

**3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

- a) Why is Jesus the only one who could fully exemplify this passage as salt, light, city, etc.?
- b) Can you explain this statement: "Good works are our fruit not our root."
- c) Why must we have Christ in us in order to live the way Jesus is calling us to in this passage?

**APPLICATION**

- a) The "You" in this passage is plural, and in verse 15 Christ calls us a city on a hill, implying a plurality. Why do we need each other if we are going to live as salt and light? In what ways are you being a city on a hill alongside other church members? If you're not, how can you?

**PRAYER**

- Thank God for making us salt and light.
- Confess ways that you have lost your saltiness through dilution.
- Thank Jesus for being perfect salt and light for us so that we can be salt and light through him.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to do the good works that glorify God.