



The Grove

BIBLE CHAPEL

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LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 01.05.25 Pulpit Curriculum

Salt and Light of the World

Pastor Scott Pierre

Main passage: Matt 5:13-16

Big Idea: True believers are genuine influencers because they live salty and shine brightly.

Imagine if the church fully understood and functioned in our mandate to influence the world around us – salt and light. Ponder whether the world is influenced more by the Church or if the Church is more influenced by the world.

1) : Live Salty

- We are salt because we are redeemed by the work of the Lamb, not because we are recognized by anything we have done. God created the world and considered it good, and due to sin, it is going from good to bad. Salt during the time of Jesus was priceless, a part of the Levitical offering, an invaluable commodity for preserving, while penetrating anything it touches.
- As Christians, we lose our saltiness when we are (1) contaminated by the world (1John 2:15-17; Col 2: 8), (2) corrupted by unconfessed sin (John 9:31; 1 Cor 9:27), or (3) our communion is on “empty” (Ps 42:1). God wants to commune with us (James 4:5, 8).

A. What are some characteristics of a salty believer? _____

B. How would you describe your saltiness? _____

C. Review the three ways mentioned above that cause Christians to lose their saltiness. To which are you more prone? Why? List scriptures that you can use to renew your mind and maintain your saltiness (Christlikeness). Take time to meditate and pray about these verses. _____

D. As Paul describes in 1 Cor 9:27, how do you discipline yourself to retain your saltiness? Where do you struggle most in your discipline? _____



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2) Shine Brightly

- We are the light of the world. Light implies that the world is dark. If we are defined by the Word of God, we are defined by our love for the Light (John 3:16-19). As believers, we are now to walk as children of the Light (Eph 5:8), called out of the darkness to shine light into the world (1 Pet 2:9-10). Jesus Christ alone is the Light of the world (John 8:12), and we are to walk in Him and shine His light. Consider the phases of the moon and how they reflect the light from the sun. In the same way we reflect the Light of Christ. People who walk in darkness will see the “great light” (Is 9:2) directing them into the light of peace (Luke 1:79). Jesus Christ shines His light into the darkest place in our lives – our hearts (2 Cor 4:6).
- There is a warning regarding covering the light, because the light is meant to displace the darkness (Matt 5:14-15, 7:22-23). Lacking faith, fear of man (Acts 5:29), and failing to draw near to the true Light are things that prevent Christians from growing to reflect the light of Christ. As Christians, we are to reflect the light of Christ in the world (Phil 2:13-16) in a way that others would see our good works and glorify God in heaven (Matt 5:16).

E. How does the Word of God describe our heart regarding light and darkness?

F. Do you have Gospel clarity and assurance that you have the light of Christ in your heart? _____

G. Where does darkness of the world, Satan, or your flesh limit your reflection of Christ’s light? Where do you need to grow in your faith? _____

H. The moon is either growing (waxing) or decreasing (waning) in the amount of light it reflects back to the earth. What phase of the moon do you represent when you consider the light of Christ you reflect in the world around you? How are you waxing (purposely drawing closer to the light of Christ and communing with God) or waning? _____
