

September 9, 2018

**Being Salty**  
**Matthew 5:13-16**  
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## Using This Study

### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week, as we continue through the sermon on the mount, we take a look at the familiar passage that tells us to be salt and light. The Christian is to be the salt of the earth and to let our light shine before men. But what does it really mean to be the salt of the earth and why should we flaunt our good deeds? We will look closely at Jesus' intent in this teaching. Then we will explore how we can apply this to our lives today. How can you be the salt of the earth and the light of the world? What does it look like in your life this week?



## **Matthew 5:13-16 NIV84**

### Salt and Light

**13** “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

**14** “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

**15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it

under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

**16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

## **o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. What does it mean to be the salt of the earth? Why is salt a good thing?

9. Can salt lose its saltiness? If it did would it still be salt?

10. How do Christians give light to the world?

11. How does verse 16 compare to Matthew 6:1? How can we reconcile the two verses?

12. What is the purpose of doing good deeds in front of men?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)

**Why does this MATTER to me?**

13. How can you be the salt of the earth in your life? Give some examples?

14. How can we make sure that our good deeds point toward God and are not done to make ourselves look good?

15. Is it difficult to balance being 'salt and light' and not coming across as judgmental?

16. Can salt or light be painful for you or the people around you?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

SERMON NOTES