

Matthew 5:13-16 “Salt and Light”

I. Your Influence as Salt (Mt 5:13)

a. Impede

- i. Salt impedes _____ (unless you're a slug)
- ii. Without it, meat goes _____
- iii. Our world is meat, and we slow the spread of evil
- iv. Losing saltiness relates to _____. Mix salt with sand and you will have salt without “saltiness”.

1 Pt 1:22 *Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart.*

- v. If we become torn between _____, we will lose our ability to influence.

Mt. 6:24 *No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.*

b. Improve

- i. Salt improves _____

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

- ii. Without it, meat is _____
- iii. Our world is meat, and Jesus-Followers make it _____
- iv. Losing saltiness relates to blandness. Our lives will be characterized by _____. (Consumerism does this)

c. Impart Thirst

- i. Salt makes you _____
- ii. But we must ALSO give _____!

II. Your Influence as Light (Mt 5:14-15)

a. Impede

- i. Light impedes _____

2 Cor. 10:4 *For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.*

- ii. Proclaim the _____ of sin
- iii. Hide it, and you hide the truth about _____

b. **Improve**

- i. Light improves _____ (Light enlightens)

Pr 4:18-19 *But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.*

- ii. _____ the Gospel

Eph 5:8-11 *For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.*

- iii. Hide it, and you hide the truth about _____

c. **Impart**

- i. Light imparts protection
ii. _____ the world realistically

Ps 119:105 *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

- iii. Hide it and you will live in fear of all the wrong things

Mt 10:27-28 *What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. [28] And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*

III. The End Result (Mt. 5:15-16)

- a. People see the Father...
i. Perceive your _____ !!!

1 John 1:6-7 *If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. [7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*

2:9-11 *Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. [10] Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. [11] But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

- ii. Ponder your _____ of light
iii. _____ Your Father in Heaven or _____ you

1 Pt. 2:12 *Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation*