

Flipped: The Upside Down Kingdom (Salt & Light)

Mark Sherman · 9/3/2023 · Matthew 5:13-16

Matthew 5:13 - 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.”

SALT

IN THE NATURAL:

1. **Salt is Valuable** - We can buy salt in bulk now, but it was extremely valuable then. Roman soldiers were even paid in salt sometimes!
2. **Salt Preserves** - Salt prevents infection and decay. It helps food last longer.
3. **Salt Enhances flavor** - It makes it better, enhances the tastiness.

IN THE SPIRITUAL: Jesus tells his followers, “You are the Salt”. Therefore,

1. **In Christ**, you are inherently valuable. Remember, his audience was primarily ordinary people, not elite.
2. **In Christ**, you can preserve the goodness of God and act as an agent of healing in a fallen world.
3. **In Christ**, you can give flavor and raise the standard around you. We Christians who are connected VERTICALLY (with God) should be known for making things better HORIZONTALLY (with people).

IN THE BIBLE: The disciples healed (*Acts 3:1-10*), broke social norms (*Mark 2:15-17, John 4:1-42*), sharing possessions with the poor (*Acts 4:32-25*). What they modeled was a kingdom FLIPPED upside down.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY: I am so proud of you! Together we have served our neighbors well, from the Boys & Girls Club Family Day to Project TOUCH serve day and many other local outreaches.

LIGHT

John 8:12 - When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Matthew 5:14-15 - “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 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.”

IN THE NATURAL: The presence of light in darkness is unmistakable.

IN THE SPIRITUAL: The presence of Jesus in unmistakable.

IN THE BIBLE: We see very real examples of Jesus and the disciples being light to people in their darkest hour (*John 8:1-11, Mark 5*)

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY: World missions trips were incredible this summer to both Mexico and Tanzania.

IN THE NEAR FUTURE: We have a lot of exciting things coming up!

1. [September 30th - Walk for Life \(email \[msherman@go2cornerstone.com\]\(mailto:msherman@go2cornerstone.com\) for info\)](#)
2. [October 14th - City Serve in partnership with the Dream Center in Lake Elsinore](#)
3. [November 8th - Missions Night](#)
4. [November 12th - Philippines 2024 Interest Meeting](#)

Text “MISSIONS” to 951.425.4425 to get involved today!

BEFORE SHINING COMES ABIDING (*John 15:4-5*)

A solar light needs the sun in order to work. It can't give what it doesn't have. The same is true for you! You can't give what you don't have, therefore we must first abide in Christ the Son and then be salt and light to our world.

Matthew 5:16 - In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.