

Salt and Light

Matthew 5:13-16

1. “You are the salt of the earth.” (Mt 5:13)

2. “You are the light of the world.” (Mt 5:14)

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. Read Matthew 5:13. What would cause salt to lose its taste? Why does Jesus give that warning?
2. Joe Aldrich in his book, *Lifestyle Evangelism*, says on average it takes 3 years for a new believer to divest himself of all non-Christian friends. Why would that be so? Has that been your own experience? Do you have unsaved friends? What's your relationship with them like?
3. If the primary purpose of salt is to be a preservative, we need to get out of the saltshaker and into the world. Who do you spend time with who is not a follower of Christ? Do you feel you are making a difference in that setting? Which way is the influence currently running? What can you do to make more of a difference in non-Christian settings for Christ? How can your church family help?
4. Read Matthew 5:14-16. Light is used in different ways in the Bible (see Psalm 119:105, Isaiah 9:2, Ephesians 5:11-14, 1 John 1:7, John 8:12). What purpose does Jesus point to for the light in Mt 5:14-16? How do our good works cause people to give glory to our heavenly Father?
5. What's the difference between "good works" (Mt 5:16) and "righteous works" (Mt 6:1)? Make a list of some simple good works that would be welcomed by friends of yours who don't yet know the Lord. Can you pick one to implement this week? Are you willing to be accountable to someone for doing it?
6. Pray for the outreach of River Hills, that God would cause us to get out of our comfort zones and to be salt and light to our community, in order to reach people for Christ.