



Week 3: Our Witness

The church is not a building but a people with a clear identity and purpose. Jesus calls His followers the salt of the earth and the light of the world—people who enhance, preserve, reveal, and guide. When we live out this identity, we neutralize bitterness with grace, push back the darkness with truth, and reflect the character of God in every environment we step into. In a world marked by confusion, division, and decay, Jesus' vision is for His people to stand out so that others can see the goodness of God.

Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Matthew 5:13-16.** Jesus doesn't say, "You will be salt and light someday" but "You are salt and light." How does that shape the way you think about your identity as a follower of Jesus right now?
2. Salt enhances and preserves. In what ways can your presence bring flavor and goodness to the environments you step into (home, work, neighborhood, school)?
3. Jesus said, "No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket." Why do you think we're tempted to hide our light? What opportunities have you missed as a result of hiding your light?
4. Too much salt and shining our light in someone's face can have a negative effect. Have you ever experienced this personally? How can we shine the light of Jesus in a way that doesn't just expose sin but also points people toward God's grace and freedom?
5. Identify one specific place or relationship where God is calling you to be salt and light this week. What's one practical step you can take to live that out?