

God's Way to Make a Difference

Appetizer: There are people in the world who never open a Bible. Still, they are forming impressions about God every time they meet a Christian. You may be the only Bible that someone will read.

Discussion: Who has been like a bible for you, showing in their life what God is like? What did that person say or do that showed God to you?

Main Course: Read Matthew 5:13-16.

1. What positive qualities of salt and light do you think Jesus had in mind as he spoke these words?
2. Before refrigeration, salt was used to keep meat from rotting. What then does Jesus' statement "You are the salt of the earth" (v. 13) tell us about society and the church's role in it?
3. What has been in the news lately that indicates society is rotting and decaying?
4. What are some practical ways we can function as salt where we live and work (v. 13)?
5. What might cause Christians to lose their saltiness (v. 13)?
6. Why might we be tempted to hide our light (v. 15)?
7. What is the result, according to Jesus, of people seeing our good deeds (v. 16)?
8. What examples can you think of where the work of Christians has brought people closer to God?
9. What relationship do you see between the Beatitudes and our role as salt and light in society?

Dessert: What is one way you can begin having a stronger influence as salt and as light?