

Title: Light Up the City!

Text: Matthew 5:13-16

Target: God's word is designed to empower and equip us, so that we maximize the gifts within us, individually and collectively. God is calling us to step up and to step out by using our gifts and influence to point people to Jesus! We are called to be salt and light!

I. The **Purpose** of the Salt: Evaluates **the Heart**

- a. *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” - Romans 12:2*
- b. *“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you know how you ought to answer each person.” – Colossians 4:6*

II. The **Placement** of the Light: Eliminates **the Darkness**

- a. *“But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light” – Ephesians 5:13-14*
- b. *“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” – John 1:4-5*

III. The **Priority** of the City: Elevates **the Messiah**

- a. *“And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb” – Revelation 21:23*
- b. *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12*

Take Away: The more we **light up the city** with the gospel and point people to Jesus, the more **changed lives** we will see! When we **let our light shine**, we help **guide others** out of darkness, and we help **guard against** them going back into the darkness! Our light matters!