

CALLED AS SALT/LIGHT: WEEK TWO

Statement...from his opening “Beatitudes” we resume our study as Jesus reminds us of who we are.

You are salt of the earth, light of the world, a city on a hill. How do those words strike you? How do they challenge you? Do they describe you and how you live?

CHRIST’S MARKETING STRATEGY...we are a key part of what God is doing, and how he wants to impact the world through us. Jesus is saying to us: YOU ARE MY MARKETING STRATEGY, PERSON TO PERSON, WORD OF MOUTH, ONE LIFE INSPIRING OTHER LIVES. YOU’LL DO THIS BY BEING SALT/LIGHT. SALT, AS IN LIVING A LIFE THAT CAUSES OTHERS TO THIRST FOR WHAT YOU HAVE, AND LIGHT AS IN ALLOWING YOUR LIFE TO ILLUMINE WHAT IS DARK, TO SHINE TRUTH/LOVE WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED.

SALT...it was valuable substance in that day, not only to preserve food or add taste to it, but salt was sold/exchanged. People were often paid in salt.

How is salt a fitting image of your influence as a Christian? What salty people have you known and how did they impact you?

LIGHT...Jesus confers some of his light to us. Any light we have is derived from Christ. We are prisms; we just reflect his light. He isn’t asking us to show off or by pushy. We are called to “shine our light before others”, not “at others”.

Does his calling you to shine your light inspire you or scare you?

POINTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST...being salt/light is not a summons to call attention to ourselves but to point others to Christ. Christianity isn’t just KEEPING THE FAITH; it is SPREADING THE FAITH, sharing what we have learned, and letting God use us to bless others. If we want to influence the world for Jesus, we must be credible. People can detect a con job a mile away. We don’t have to be obnoxious. Jesus wants us to impact the world in positive ways, and not to make spectacles of ourselves.

OUR LIVES MATTER...the Disciples, overhearing his words, needed to be reminded of how much their lives mattered.

How do we need that reminder? Have you ever thought that if you weren’t here, that no one would notice?

Our lives matter in more ways than we know. Jesus makes us who we are, and he never makes mistakes. So let his light shine and you will never doubt your worth again.