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**“The Heart of the Matter Series” (The Sermon on the Mount)**

**“Be Salty and Shine”**

**Matthew 5:13-16**

**Introduction:**

**-As we continue our series “The Heart of the Matter” (Sermon on the Mount) here is a a recap of what we have gone over so far.**

**-There was the Introduction: Matthew 5:1-2**

**-Last 2 Weeks “The Great Contradiction” (The Beatitudes): Matthew 5:3-12**

**-When your heart changes, our attitudes change, our values change and our mission changes**

**-As we start to change, others around us should also see these changes as well. What will they see? If your Salty and Shining, they should see Jesus and be drawn to what you have. Now whether they reject it or not, that’s their choice.**

**-Today we will look at what Being Salty and Shining is all about. As Jesus gets to “The Heart of the Matter” with us, Jesus can use us to get to “The Heart of the Matter with our fellow man.**

**I. The Salt of the Earth (v. 13)**

**-Jesus’ declaration “You are the Salt of the Earth”**

**-The meaning of the analogy?**

**1. The World is in Moral Decay**

**2. Christians act as salt in the world. What is the purpose of being Salty?**

**-Salt cleanses: we live pure lives in the world**

**-Salt preserves: we stand up for what is right**

**-Salt flavors: we attract people to Christ**

**-Warning: When Salt loses it saltiness it becomes compromised.**

**1. The Church loses its reputation (can’t be made salty again)**

**2. The Church loses its mission (no longer good for anything)**

**II. The Light of the World (vv. 14-16)**

**-Jesus declaration “You are the light of the World” Note Jesus is the true light and we reflect his light.**

**-John 8:12: Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life.**

**-The meaning of the analogy.**

**1. The world is in darkness**

**-It does not know the way to God.**

**-Acts 26:17-18: rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in me.**

**-It does not know God’s way**

**-Psalm 119:105: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

**2. Christians act as light in the world**

**-light shines: we stand out as followers of Jesus.**

**-light illuminates: we point people to God and his ways**

**-light reveals: we show others how God wants us to live.**

**-Encouragement: when your light shines brightly (witness)**

**-People will see your good deeds**

**-People will praise your Father in Heaven.**

**Conclusion:**

**-Being salty and shining means we must first look at ourselves. Are we compromising our walk to fit in? Do people see Jesus in you?**

**-Church this morning let’s take a close look at ourselves. Because the only way to be salty and shine is to begin to look at ourselves.**

**-At Village Christian Church, let’s be salty and shine throughout Hot Springs Village and beyond.**