

Quail Neighborhood Men's Bible Study
Session 1

Matthew 5: 13 – You are the Salt of the Earth

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.”

Context:

This is part of the Sermon on the Mount, right at the beginning, right after the Beatitudes, and just before the “light of the world” parable. Jesus is instructing His disciples (us, too) about how to live as citizens of the Kingdom and servants of the King.

Questions:

1. What was salt good for in Jesus’s day?
2. How could salt lose its taste?
3. Could its saltiness be restored?

Related Scripture Passages:

Mark 9:43-50

Luke 14:34-25

Colossians 4:6

Application:

1. What is the main point of the passage?
2. How might Jesus make this point to us today?

Matthew 5:14-16 – You are the Light of the World

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Context:

This is part of the Sermon on the Mount, right at the beginning, right after the Beatitudes and the “salt of the earth” parable. Jesus is instructing His disciples (us, too) about how to live as citizens of the Kingdom and servants of the King.

Questions:

1. What was a lamp like in Jesus’s day?
2. What functions did a lamp or a light perform?

Related Scripture Passages:

Luke 8:16-17

Matthew 10:27

Ephesians 5:8-14

Philippians 2:14-15

Application:

1. What is the main point of the passage?
2. How might Jesus make this point to us today?

Luke 11: 33-36 – Your Eye is the Lamp of your Body

“No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on the lampstand so that those who enter may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light; but if it is not healthy, your body is full of darkness. Therefore consider whether the light in you is not darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in darkness, it will be as full of light as when a lamp gives you light with its rays.”

Context:

If the events in Luke are chronological, then this passage is sometime after Jesus’s Transfiguration. He was traveling around, healing, delivering, and teaching the people. This passage is part of His teaching to a crowd of people (not just the disciples) after casting a demon out of man.

Questions:

1. Is the first sentence really part of the particular message contained in the rest?
2. How prevalent was blindness in the first century? What was its impact on a person’s life?
3. Can darkness and light coexist in the same place?

Related Scripture Passages:

Psalms 18:28
Psalms 27:1
John 3:19-21
John 8:12
John 12:35-36
John 12:44-50

Application:

1. What is the main point of the passage?
2. How might Jesus make this point to us today?