

The Year Of Following Jesus #42: Jesus' Salt & Light Collective

October 15, 2022

You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

—Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)

What Is Jesus saying?

1. This Is A Covenant.

2. It's An Invitation To Belonging.

- *So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.*

—John 13:34-35 (NLT)

- *Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*

—Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

3. I Must Be Willing To Be Trained.

- *You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are*

right, because that's what I am... I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done.

—John 13:13-15 (NLT)

- *You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.*

—Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT)

- *Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.*

—Ephesians 5:1-2 (MES)

4. It's a Progression.

- *We will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ.*

—Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

- *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*

—Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

- *I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to*

reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

—Philippians 3:12-14 (NLT)

- *Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you.*

—Philippians 3:15 (NLT)

- *And all of us... can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more.*

—2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (NLT)

Follow Through Step #42:

Reflect on what it means for you to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Are you? What's holding you back?

Riverside Info Texting System

At Riverside we aren't terribly organized- in fact we're sort of the poster church for "disorganized religion". So we use a "text for information" system where how much info you get is controlled by you. You will never have someone call you without asking for a call. If you can't find the info you need or have more questions or need some help reach out to one of the pastors directly- if we don't answer try texting or emailing us and we may get your message sooner.

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For info on any of the following areas simply text the keyword to 907-

312-2662. You'll get a text in return with a link to the info you asked for.

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