



Sunday August 25, 2019
Shine Your Light

Matthew 5:13-16

13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The Lord Jesus spoke these words to His disciples, and since we are His disciples today, this applies to us.

WE ARE THIS

The Lord Jesus in describing those who followed Him, His disciples used these words : salt and light. These words are descriptive figuratively (as metaphors) of **WHO** we are and **WHY** we are here and **WHAT** we are to do in this world. In some ways these words provide **identity and purpose**.

These words are very simple, and yet loaded with meaning.
Let's say it out: "I am here to be salt and light"

Salt permeates.

Salt influences.

Salt flavors - provides taste.

Salt preserves from corruption and decay (in this case moral corruption).

Being salt - is releasing the God flavors into our world.

In Jesus' time, salt was also valuable. People (e.g. Roman soldiers) were paid with salt, at time.

Light penetrates.

Light impacts.

Light dispels darkness.

Light enlightens - giving people direction, ability to progress, safety from danger, etc.

Being light - is releasing the God colors into our world.

Our presence in this world is to be seen, felt and experienced.

We are **not to be 'hidden'**, with our light unseen and invisible.



We are **not to be 'inert'**, being "chemically inactive", dormant, motionless and still.
We are here to make a difference.
We are here to influence and impact.
This is who we are and why we are here.

THE WORLD NEEDS THIS

The world needs salt and light

The world is in spiritual darkness.
The world is in moral decay.

As light we are combating spiritual darkness.
As salt we are combating moral decay.

DO THIS

The Lord Jesus said "let your light shine". And we can also state that He implied "let your salt flavor your world".

All of us have different spheres of influence, and this will change over time.

If you are a student, your "world" would primarily be your school or college and the circle of friends you have.

As a home-maker your "world" would be your home, those who you interact with in the vicinity of your home, etc.

As a person in the marketplace your "world" includes those who you interact with professionally.

So each of us, are to bring God's influence - the God colors and the God flavors - into our world.

DO IT LIKE THIS

The Lord Jesus went on to say:

Matthew 5:16

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let your light **so** shine....shine in this manner and for this outcome.

This is how we shine - we let people see our good works - that is, we let our "good works" do the talking, the shining, the flavoring. Our good works release the God flavors and the God colors into this world.



This is why we shine - for our heavenly Father to be glorified. Ultimately, we desire to put God on display and point people to Him - His greatness, His goodness, etc.

Let's break this down further:

(A) see your good works

Works of excellence are "good works"

good Greek 'kalos' has the idea of being *admirable, commendable, excellent, genuine, precious, pure, competent, and honorable*.

work in Greek is 'ergon'

Thayer Definition for the word 'ergon':

- 1) *business, employment, that which any one is occupied*
- 1a) *that which one undertakes to do, enterprise, undertaking*
- 2) *any product whatever, any thing accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind*
- 3) *an act, deed, thing done: the idea of working is emphasised in opposition (contrast) to that which is less than work*

So "good works" has to do with us doing what we do with excellence.

Our good works release the God flavors and the God colors into this world.

God has good works planned and prepared for each of us to walk in.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

As believers we need to discover and walk in these good works, so that His light and His flavor will be released through us, where we are.

Supernatural works are "good works"

In the New Testament, "good works" also include works of power, displaying God's supernatural power.

For instance, Jesus referred to His works of healing, deliverance and miracles as "good works" from the Father:



John 10:32

Jesus answered them, "Many good works (*kalos ergon*) I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"

So all of us as believers should desire to display God's supernatural power - good works from our Father - to release the God colors and God flavors into our world.

(B) glorify your Father in heaven

The ultimate objective or purpose in letting our light shine or releasing the God flavors, is to glorify our heavenly Father. To point people to Him. That they may know Him and believe in Him through His Son Jesus Christ.

We are not here so that people see our "good works" and praise us, give us great appreciation and rewards. We are here to glorify our heavenly Father.

If we do "good works" and fail to have our heavenly Father glorified, then we are still falling short of being salt and light in this world.

APPLICATION

So we need to think about practical ways we can let the God flavors permeate our world and the God colors shine into our world - our sphere of influence.

Works of excellence are "good works"
Supernatural works are "good works"

Think:

How can you release works of excellence, in what you do in your life?

How can you release supernatural works in what you do in your life?

You are salt and light.

The world around you needs the salt and light you bring.

We are here to release the God flavors and God colors to influence and impact our world through the "good works" that come through our lives.

If we don't let our light shine or let our salt flavor our world - Jesus said "it is good for nothing"...our presence here is not useful at all.



MINISTRY TIME | SALVATION CALL

WT will sing the Song: Carry Your Candle (Chris Rice)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHm70Hv6gFI>

AT APC CENTRAL

12:15 - 12:25 - Video about LGs and volunteer teams (Suhas)

12:25 - 12:30 - Brief on plan for afternoon (Suhas)

12:30 - 12:35 - Dance workshop intro (Richard)

12:35 - Prayer and benediction (Ps. Jeyakumar)

- Lunch for congregation and opening of all stalls

1:00 - 2:30 - Workshops

2:30 - 3:00 - Wrap up



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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There is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons. Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Matthew 5:13-16*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, The Lord Jesus chose the metaphors 'salt' and 'light' to describe His followers. Discuss the significance and meaning of these two words He chose.

2, Why is it important to be 'salt' and 'light' in our world today?

3, The "good works" that release God flavors and God colors into our world are (A)works of excellence we do and (B)supernatural works of the Father. Discuss practical ways you can show these kind of "good works" in your world (your daily sphere of influence), so that our heavenly Father is glorified.

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>