**The World’s Salt and Light** *(Matthew 5:13-16)*

**Introduction**

* Ends beatitudes talking about the effect the world has on those in the kingdom (5:11-12).
* Starts talking about the effect the kingdom has on the world (5:13-16).

1. Salt of the earth.
2. Salt seasons (makes things taste better).

* Makes the world palatable to God – Genesis 6:5-7 (destroy with flood)
  + Sodom – Genesis 18:22-25
    - “I will not do it for the sake of…” (find 50, 45, 40, 30, 20, 10)

1. Without flavor it’s good for nothing.

* Impurities cause flavor loss. – 1 Corinthians 15:33; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (Corinthians tolerating sinful conduct); Ephesians 5:3-7 – do not have an inheritance…; Romans 12:9
  + “good for nothing but to be thrown out” – Christians that lose their flavor lose their salvation – 1 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 3:15-16; Matthew 13:40-42 (out of His kingdom)

1. Light of the world.
2. Only through Jesus.

* He is the source of light – John 8:12; 9:4-5; 12:46
  + Given to the apostles – 2 Corinthians 4:6
  + We receive light through the word – Philippians 2:14-16

1. Called to light.

* 1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 5:8-10 (finding out what is acceptable to the Lord…)

1. “Let your light shine before men…”

* This is shown through conduct – 1 Timothy 4:12-16 (*continue* in them)
  + Our light is a reflection of Christ – 1 Corinthians 11:1.
  + Our light does not shine when there is something between us and Christ.
    - Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:12 (I have the authority to do such things, but I will not become a slave to those things.)
    - Sin, of course, blocks us from Christ’s light – 1 John 1:5-6
* “that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” – 1 Peter 2:11-12; John 15:5-8

**Conclusion**

* We have the responsibility of seasoning and lighting the world.
* Seasoned food is much different than bland food. Light is the opposite of dark.
  + Christians are supposed to be different.
  + Romans 12:1-2; James 1:27; 2 Corinthians 5:13 (acceptable to God, Crazy/weird/different to the world)
* Are you being the salt/light of the world?