

Baycities Lomita Fall 2019 Growth Groups
Series: “Living The Jesus Life” Part 9
Theme: “Getting Out Of The Salt Shaker”- Week of November 3, 2019
Follow-Up Bible Study and Discussion Questions

Message Summary: In Matt. 5:13, Jesus calls His followers, “salt”... the salt of the earth. So, now what do we do? The rules are a bit scarce... about being salt and then for us to “get out” of the salt shaker! Because, as regular folks, we want to live our lives and get done the things on our plates every week and day we have to do. But what do we do with Jesus’ label, that- **“we are the salt of the earth?”** We get the idea that living the Jesus life makes people thirsty for Him... but how do we make sure we’re being active and attractive enough to get the job done? Great question! And we want to try and answer that today. Jesus defined the Jesus life for us in the first 8 or 9 qualities of those who get into and who now live in, His kingdom. So what kind of impact we have, on some level, is a function of how real those qualities of life continue to be in us! Let’s explore what that means practically in our discussions!

1. Jesus called us as His followers, **“The Salt of the Earth,”** in Matt. 5:13. Discuss some of the properties that salt has that Jesus followers have if they are letting their “salty selves” interact with the people around them?

2. Read John 4:13-14. **One characteristic of salt** that seems to fit with Jesus’ conversation with **the Woman at The Well** in John 4:13-14, is that the water Jesus provides satisfies a particular “thirst” that every person has, and satisfies it completely! Discuss the following question:
 - a. Jesus is using thirst as an illustration of a “longing for what Jesus offers” that no one else does. What is the “thirst” that only His kind of “living water” can satisfy? (Look at John 10:28 to help answer this question)

 - b. What are some reasons you can think of as to why people need to see our faith in Jesus, in action, in order to make a choice to believe it for themselves? (Hint: think of purchasing a product on Amazon... what do you look at before purchasing it?)

3. If we are the “**salt of the earth**”, there are two more aspects of salt to consider- salt preserves things (salted meat, bacon, etc.) and it flavors things (salt on french-fries)

a. Look at Psalm. 14:3. What are some things Christians could do to “preserve” or slow down the advancement of moral and spiritual decay we see happening in people around us?

b. Look at Luke 6:35. If we (as salt) are to be used as a “flavor enhancer”, what are ways we could enrich the world when it comes to goodness and showing people Jesus’ kind of love?

4. Jesus warned His followers in Matt. 5:13, that there is a chance that they could “**lose their saltiness**” and not be able to get it back again! How could the following situations cause us to lose our saltiness for Jesus? How could we avoid this happening in each case?

a. Giving into plugging temptations that we battle with

b. Get too busy for people time

c. Become silent when we see evil take place

d. Become overly self-focused than others focused

e. Stop feeding on the Word of God and prayer.