Salt and Light

Part 1: Just Jesus

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

***13*** *“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.*

***14*** *“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.* ***15*** *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.* ***16*** *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 The Message

***13*** *“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that*

*brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.*

***14-16*** *“Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.*

John 1 NIV

***37*** *When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus.* ***38*** *Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?”*

*They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”* ***39*** *“Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”*

***43*** *The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”*

***46*** *“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip.*

**Three ways to know Jesus:**

1. We know Him from what we read about Him.

2. We know Him by eating Him.

John 6:52-56

***52*** *At this, the Jews started fighting among themselves: “How can this man serve up his flesh for a meal?”*

***53-58*** *But Jesus didn’t give an inch. “Only insofar as you eat and drink flesh and blood, the flesh and blood of the Son of Man, do you have life within you. The one who brings a hearty appetite to this eating and drinking has eternal life and will be fit and ready for the Final Day. My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. By eating my flesh and drinking my blood you enter into me and I into you. In the same way that the fully alive Father sent me here and I live because of him, so the one who makes a meal of me lives because of me. This is the Bread from heaven. Your ancestors ate bread and later died. Whoever eats this Bread will live always.”*

3. We know Jesus by practicing acting like Him.