

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

OCTOBER 10, 2021

Andy Rauschkolb, Pastor of Young Adults



Andy Rauschkolb, pastor to young adults, continued in our series on the Sermon on the Mount. Turning from the Beatitudes which promise the blessings of the blessed, Jesus calls his followers to a new kind of life. This life is to be lived out loud, not kept to oneself. The message of Jesus, the Good News, is so good it can't be kept secret. We are called into a way of life that points people to Jesus, by word and by deed. Jesus described this way of living as salt and light.

SCRIPTURE

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.

NIV:

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out from Andy's message?
2. Read Matthew 5:13-16 in a couple different versions/translations/paraphrases of the Bible.

3. What does Jesus call his followers?
 - a. What are some of the common qualities and uses of salt?
 - b. What are characteristics, effects, and results of light?
 - c. In contrast, what are characteristics, effects, and results of darkness?

4. What are ways people can add saltiness of their faith in the world? How can they shine their light into the world?

5. Where have you seen or experienced salt and light as Jesus describes? (Think of those who have influenced you in your faith)

6. How will you be salt and light in your circle of influence, and beyond? Be specific.

7. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Thank God for sending Jesus as light into a dark world, to rescue you and save you. Ask God to remind you daily that your personal faith is not only for you, but your relationship with him is to be lived out loud. Ask God for opportunities to bring salt and light to others in practical and accountable ways.