RISK IT! #1 Salt and Light

Help Somebody Grow In 2021!

Matthew 5:13 *"**You are the salt of the earth**, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.* **14** *"**You are the light of the world.** A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.* **15** *Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.* **16** *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

1. **THE BIG PROBLEM: The world is full of Darkness and Decadence.**

2. **GOD'S SURPRISING SOLUTION: Salt and Light**
   Matthew 5:13 YOU are the salt of the earth…
   Matthew 5:14 YOU are the light of the world…

YOU ARE THE WHO!

A. Just like Salt and Light both have an Effect on whatever they come into contact with, so YOU are called to have an impact in this Decaying and Dark world.

B. Just like Salt and Light are both beneficial commodities in this world, so YOU will be a Positive Influence for Good to the people and the cities in which you live.

C. Just as Salt acts as a Preservative and a Seasoning, so YOU My redeemed people will serve to slow the decay of your society, giving flavor to the tasteless culture that surrounds you.

D. Just like Salt creates thirst, so YOU will be to those whose winsome lifestyle of love will stimulate Spiritual Thirst for God in the lives of your friends and neighbors.

E. Just as Salt stings when applied to wounds, so some people will recoil when they come into contact with YOUR salty life and witness, but be assured it will be for their Ultimate Healing.

F. Just as Light illuminates the way forward so YOUR lives are meant to show others the way to God, God's truth, and God's life.

G. Just as Light reveals the true state of things, so YOUR way of life and words will Reveal this Sinful World for what it really is, Exposing Lies and Deception and Hidden Evil.

H. Just as Light dispels and chases away darkness so the beauty and purity of YOUR lives will Diminish Evil that is around you.

3. **TWO HUGE CHALLENGES: Being Salty Salt and Bright Light**

A. The "Salty Salt" Challenge of Remaining Truly Pure: Getting close enough to influence without compromising your character.

B. The "Bright Light" Challenge of Being Truly Humble: Letting our light shine bright enough to be seen, without stealing glory that is God's alone.

***RISK IT!* CHALLENGE** – Contact a Christian brother or sister whom you admire as an effective "salty salt" and "bright light" person—someone who seems to be able to share their faith naturally and confidently—and ask them, "*What's your secret?* What's the key to your confidence and ease in being such a great witness for Jesus?"

Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor
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