

w/b 30th December 2018

THEME: NEW YEARS' RESOLUTIONS - SALT AND LIGHT - LIFE APPLICATION

PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5 13-16

LAUNCH

Can you think of a significant person from history (other than Jesus) that had a major positive influence on society? In what way were they 'salt and light' in their situation?

DISCOVERY & APPLICATION

SALT

Think about life in the first century and write down all the ways in which salt would have been used.

Read Lev. 2:13; Numb. 18:19; 2 Chron. 13:1-12. What do you learn in these passages about salt? What did it represent with regard to God and His actions toward His people?

What does Jesus mean when He says that believers are the "salt of the earth?" What effects do believers have on the world around them that are summed up in the metaphor of salt?

How does the metaphor of a believer being the salt of the earth relate to or flow from the Beatitudes?

What does it mean in practice for a believer to lose his/her saltiness in the world?

Write down at least 3 ways that you experience being salt in your world. Also think of 3 more ways that you could be a stronger influence in the world in which you daily live out your faith.

LIGHT

Where and how do believers get the light that they are to let shine (5:15)?

In what ways are believers the light of the world?

What are some ways that you routinely put your light under a basket? How will you take more of an initiative to "let your light shine" before others, specifically in the areas you listed where you put your light under a basket?

APPLICATION

Pray for Jubilee in the coming year that our light would shine in a dark world and that we would act as a preservative in a society that is experiencing significant signs of decay.

Cabot bible.com provided the majority of the questions (edited)