NOTES

SALT & LIGHT

JIM NICODEM | JANUARY 21 & 22, 2023 MATTHEW 5:13-16

Introduction	
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

- What's your current job? (If you're a student, stay-at-home parent, retiree, or looking for a job--that, too, is a job!) What do you like most/least about your workplace and coworkers?
- Read Matthew 5:13. What was a major purpose for which salt was used in Jesus' day (per the sermon), and why does Jesus call his followers salt? What are some manifestations of "rot"
- in your line of work (generally) and in your workplace (specifically)? What might being salt look like in response to that rot?
- 3. How do each of the following verses describe a salty response to common instances of workplace rot? Colossians 3:22, 23. Matthew 7:12. Genesis 1:27. Ephesians 2:14. Ephesians 4:27.
- 4. Reread Matthew 5:13. How did salt lose its saltiness in Jesus' day? What happened to salt that was no longer salty? How would you summarize Jesus' warning to his followers here? How does a Christ follower stay salty (multiple answers)?
- Read Matthew 5:14, 15 and Ephesians 5:8, 11, 13. How does a Christ follower act like light
 according to these verses? What are some examples of darkness that Christ followers might
 need to speak up against in their workplaces? (Use Proverbs 24:11; 31:8, 9; and James 5:4 to
 get you started.)
- 6. Why is it tempting to remain silent about darkness? Why is silence a bad option?
- Make a list of some ground rules that you and other Christ followers might want to follow when exposing darkness.
- 8. Read Matthew 5:16. How do Christ followers act like light according to this verse? What is the positive result of this kind of light? What are some positive examples of workplace behaviors (and good deeds) that Christ followers should practice?
- What happens when Christ followers act as light in the sense of exposing darkness (i.e., speaking up), while not in the sense of doing good deeds? Read I Peter 2:12, and then put Peter's admonition into your own words.
- 10. What are the two most important applications that you will take away from this sermon for your life on the job?