



Series:

WELCOME TO "CHURCH"

Title:

Living as Salt and Light

Preacher:

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Notes

Scriptures to reflect on:

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." (**Matthew 5:13-16 NIV**)

"Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." (**Colossians 4:6 NIV**)

Sermon review:

Jesus intends to build His Kingdom through the church. Darkness is overcome with light. Decay is off-set with salt. Bright places don't need more light. Salty foods don't need more salt.

The church fails to be light and salt when 1) we reflect the world around us in our speech, lifestyles, and priorities, and 2) when our gathering is primarily centered on how we insulate ourselves from the world instead of being equipped to impact the world.

Reflection:

As we get older, we tend to shrink our circle of friends. Many Christians cannot honestly say they have any non-believing friends. Often the only good that church members are encouraged to do is the "good" within the four walls of a church building. However, we are called to do good in the world and for the world around us.

Now... a dangerous question- What would Las Cruces miss if Sierra Vista was not here?

What do you think God is calling SVCC to be/do?

What is God asking you to do?

Take some time this week and share some of your thoughts with your prayer circle.



Embassy Conversation Starters

(Spend some time being honest with yourself and take some time this week to share your answers with those in your prayer circle.)

1. When you read Jesus saying, "You are the salt and light of the world" what surprises you? Do you tend to think of being salt and light as something we do or something we are?
2. Where do you currently find yourself in "dark" places (not Christian circles?)
3. How would that place/those places be different if you were not there? (Be honest)
4. What changes would you need to make in your life so that the people in those places experienced a touch of Heaven and a taste of the Kingdom through you?
5. What do you need in your life to "get out of the shaker and out from under the basket?"
6. (Is it more courage, a deeper love for the broken world, more time/energy, or just a focused calling because you aren't sure what God wants from you?)