The Salt and Light of the World

Living like a King #10 Tim Gill - November 9, 2014

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)

How do I bring salt and light to the earth?

1. I salt the earth by my words.

Let the words you speak always be full of grace. Season them with salt. Then you will know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6 (NIRV)

What kind of words?

• My words of **encouragement**.

When you talk, do not say harmful things, but say what people need—words that will help others become stronger. Then what you say will do good to those who listen to you. **Ephesians 4:19 (NCV)**

My words of <u>patience</u>.

Patience can persuade a prince, and soft speech can break bones.

Proverbs 25:15 (NLT)

My words of <u>faith</u>.

Let the teaching of Christ live inside you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and counsel each other. Colossian 3:16a (ERV)

My words of <u>truth</u>.

...we will lovingly follow the truth at all times—speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly... **Ephesians 4:15a (TLB)**

• My words of **kindness**.

The mouth of a good person is a deep, life-giving well, but the mouth of the wicked is a dark cave of abuse. **Proverbs 10:11 (MSG)**

My words of <u>hope</u>.

The weight of worry drags us down, but a good word lightens our day.

Proverbs 12:25 (VOICE)

2. I light the world by the way I live.

People who do not believe are living all around you and might say that you are doing wrong. Live such good lives that they will see the good things you do and will give glory to God on the day when Christ comes again.

1 Peter 2:12 (NCV)

What kind of good deeds?

• My deeds of *compassion*.

For I was hungry... When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:35-39 (NIV)

• My deeds of *mercy*.

God has told you what he wants, and this is all it is: to be fair, just, merciful, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 (TLB)

My deeds of <u>generosity</u>.

Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

2 Corinthians 9:13 (NIV)

My deeds of <u>selflessness</u>.

Everything you say and everything you do should be done for Jesus your Lord. And in all you do, give thanks to God the Father through Jesus.

Colossians 3:17 (ERV)

Dear brothers, you are only visitors here. Since your real home is in heaven, I beg you to keep away from the evil pleasures of this world; they are not for you, for they fight against your very souls.

12 Be careful how you behave among your unsaved neighbors; for then, even if they are suspicious of you and talk against you, they will end up praising God for your good works when Christ returns.

1 Peter 2:11-12 (NCV)