



The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:10 (ESV)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

- Believers find their identity from the one that lives **within** them. It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for... Ephesians 1:11 (Msg)
- Your identity in Christ is your understanding of who **God says you are** because you have put your faith in Jesus.

Why this is important:

- Only when we embrace who we are in Christ do we know **how to live** for Christ. 9 For you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. 10 "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy." 1 Peter 2:9-10 (NLT)
- We'll never **identify** with Jesus until we **die** with Jesus. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For anyone who keeps his life for himself shall lose it; and anyone who loses his life for me shall find it again. 26 What profit is there if you gain the whole world—and lose eternal life? What can be compared with the value of eternal life? Matthew 16:24-26 (TLB)
- 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)

So part of your identity is:

- You are **salt** and **light** in this world.

Characteristics of being Salt and Light:

- Salt is **necessary**.
- Salt **preserves**.
- Salt **Seasons**.

A Characteristic of light is:

- Light reflects **Jesus**. 12 ... "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8:12 (NIV)

- Light illuminates **the darkness**.

- Light exposes the **truth**.

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6

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

- Salt and Light are **change** agents.

...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.15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Matthew 5:13b,15a

When we **compromise** with the world, we lose our **impact** in the world.

Actions steps:

- Embrace your **identity**.
- Plan to **stand out**.
- Expect God to **show up**.

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everybody's chains came loose. Acts 16:25-26



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Why does it mean that followers of Jesus find their identity in Jesus?
- Why is it important to accept who God says you are and how He sees you?
- Explain what this means to you: "We'll never identify with Jesus until we die with Jesus."
- In your own words, what does it mean to be salt and light in this world?
- Do you see yourself as necessary and valuable in God's plan for this world?
- What does it mean that we slow the decay in this world? What does it mean that we season this culture?
- What are some ways we reflect Jesus to the world? Do you feel like you do that?
- How do we illuminate the darkness? How do we expose the truth?
- Do you see yourself as a change agent in this world?
- How do we lose our impact and influence in this world?
- Have you embraced your identity as Salt and Light to the World, or do you still want to belong to the world?
- Do you plan for your life to stand out to others? Do you recognize the difference between you and others in the world?

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Today's Talk..



You are Salt and Light to the world.

Sunday, November 17th, 2024

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