**Digging Deeper Study**

**Empowered to Shine: Living as Salt and Light**

**Eph. 1:17; Matthew 5:13-16; Mark 9:49-50; Luke 14:34-35**

**January 26 2025**

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| **Knowing God Empowers us to be salt and light**  Eph. 1:17; Matt. 5:13-16  Eph. 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit[a] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.  **Stay Salty by living out the hope of your calling**  Eph. 1:18; Mark 9:49-50  18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,  **Depend on God’s Power to Stay Salty and Fulfill Your Purpose.**  Ephesians 1:19-20  and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,  Luke 14:36-37 | Salt and Light don’t have to do anything to change an atmosphere. They just have to be present. Paul urges us to just get to know God.  What are some everyday environments in your life where simply being present as salt and light can make a difference? How can you remain mindful of your influence without feeling like you have to do a bunch of “stuff”.  Mark 9:49 says, “Everyone will be salted with fire.” How have trials or difficulties in your life drawn you closer to God or helped refine your faith?  Jesus calls us to be ambassadors, representing heaven in a broken world. How can you stay faithful to this calling in a culture that often opposes biblical values?  Why is it important for the church to demonstrate love, peace, and unity among believers? How can we as a group encourage and live out this kind of “saltiness” together?  What would it look like for our small group to create an environment where even those who don’t believe in Jesus would feel the love and unity of Christ when they see us?  Salt was used as a fertilizer to help things grow. How can you be "salt" in someone else's life to help them grow in their faith?  Salt was also used to prevent bacteria from growing. In what ways can you “prevent darkness” or sin from taking root in your circles of influence?  Salt can lose its effectiveness when it’s mixed with other things, like sand. Are there any areas in your life where “sand” (worldly influences) might be diluting your faith or witness?  What might it look like for you to intentionally focus on helping others grow, even if it’s not about “your growth”?   1. Pray for God to reveal any “sand” in your life that needs to be sifted out. 2. Ask God to help you be both a fertilizer (helping others grow) and a disinfectant (preventing darkness) in the world. 3. Pray for boldness to step into challenging places and for God’s power to work through you as His “salt.” |