

BE SALTY - PART 4

Salty Flavor

“You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.¹⁴ “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. **Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)**

- Salt Means I Have God’s Character.
- Light Means I Do The Good Works Of Jesus.

*Don t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.¹⁸ I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God s law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.¹⁹ So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God s laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.²⁰ **“But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!*** **Matthew 5:17-20 (NLT)**

- To Have The Flavor Of Salt: We Must Be Like Jesus.

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate?² Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.³ Don t be selfish; don t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.⁴ Don t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal s death on a cross.⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:1-11 (NLT)

- To Have The Flavor Of Salt: We Must Possess The Right Attitude.

The Flavor Of Christ-Like Saltiness:

What Does Living This Out In Practice Actually Looks Like?

*Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.²¹ **Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.*** **Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)**

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. ² **Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.** ³ **Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.** ⁴ **For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.** ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all. ⁷ However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ.
Ephesians 4:1-7 (NLT)

The Flavor Of Our SALT:

- **Humility - Always be humble (v2)**
- **Gentleness - Always be gentle (v2)**
- **Patience - Be patient with others (v2)**
- **Unity - Make every effort to keep unity in the Spirit (v3)**
- **Peaceable - Make every effort to be bound together by peace (v3)**
- **Oneness - Remember the principle of One. (v4-v6)**
- **Placement - We are each given a specific gift (v7)**

That is why the Scriptures say, "When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people."⁹ Notice that it says "he ascended." This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. ¹⁰ And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself. ¹¹ **Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.** ¹² **Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.** ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ **He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.**
Ephesians 4:8-16 (NLT)

- **To Have The Flavor Of Salt Means: I Adopt A Learning Attitude.**

With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸ Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰ **But that isn't what you learned about Christ.** ²¹ **Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him,** ²² **throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception.** ²³ **Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.** ²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. ²⁵ So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. ²⁶ And don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil.
Ephesians 4:17-27 (NLT)

Final Salty Thoughts:

- Some of us needs to stop trying to rebuke the devil, while living like the world.
- If anger gives a foothold to the devil, then patience makes room for the Spirit of peace.
- The greatest act of spiritual warfare is fulfilling the great commission and conformity to the image of Christ Jesus.

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. 16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. 17 Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. 18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, 19 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. 20 And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 21 And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5:15-21 (NLT)

1-2 Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, How can I help?" 3-6 That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it's written for us. God wants the combination of his steady, constant calling and warm, personal counsel in Scripture to come to characterize us, keeping us alert for whatever he will do next. May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. Then we'll be a choir—not our voices only, but our very lives singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and Father of our Master Jesus! Romans 15:1-6 (MSG)

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 (NLT)