



Part Five: God Using Matthew 5: 1 - 6: 4

1. Preserving Your World

-Matthew 5:13

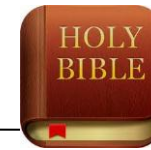
2. Enlightening Your World

-Matthew 5:14, 15; John 1:7 - 9

3. Influencing Your World

-Matthew 5:16

West Valley Church
Pastor Michael O'Neill



November 20, 2011
westvalleychurch.com

Talking it over (use this for discussion around your community group):

- Have someone in your group read (or summarize) the main passage for today.
- What is your favorite food? What spices or seasonings contribute to making that food your favorite? What do you think it would taste like without those seasonings? Do you think you would still eat it?
- What role does "salt" play in seasoning food? In preserving food?
- Why do you think Jesus said that His followers are like "salt"? Describe the similarities.
- What did Jesus imply about something, once it's lost its saltiness?
- Think about your spiritual life. Would you say that you are "salty" or that you've lost your "saltiness"?
- Think about walking into a dark room, and turning on the light. What did the light do in that room? How is that like a true follower of Jesus?

Digging Deeper (if you still have time, or for further study later, go through these questions):

- Is a true Christian more like the sun (a source of light) or the moon (reflecting the source of light)?
- Is your life bringing flavor and light into the world around you? In what ways?
- Read John 1:7-9, describing John the Baptist. From what you know about him, how was this true of his life? Is it true of yours?
- Can people tell what Jesus is like by watching your life? Name specific ways they can. If they can't, are you truly a follower of Christ?
- If your life is meant to be salt and light to the world, and you are providing neither (or in very slight amounts), what good is your life? What will you do about that?
- Re-read through your notes. Review the main points and read the Scripture references that are provided for you.**