

Salt & Light

I. **Recap:** Real ID Series (Weeks 1 & 2)

- Our Identity is shaped by:
 - Design (God)
 - Default (World)
- Identity → Function → Influence
- True identity = rooted in Christ, full of power and purpose.
- Week 1: Who we aren't ("Who told you that?")
- Week 2: Who we are → God's chosen people, accepted, fully known and loved

II. **God's Identity for His people** (Matthew 5:13)

A. Salt of the Earth

- Salt:
 - Valuable commodity (payment, "worth his salt").
 - Symbol of sanctification and purity.
 - Healing properties.
 - Adds taste.
 - Preservative: holds back decay.
 - Some areas of decay that we see:
 - identity, marriages, family, values, biblical manhood & womanhood, society
- Impurity removes salt's effectiveness.
 - Stay pure by abiding in Christ.
- "YOU" are the Salt = plural (community).
 - One grain not enough to do much → a call to biblical community.

B. Light of the World (Matthew 5:14-16)

- Light functions:
 1. Gives direction.
 2. Calls attention.
 3. Dispels darkness (authority).
- Fear is SO Boring!
- Great Commission = not just a command, but an invitation!
- Biblical community requires:
 - Forgiveness.
 - Celebration of each other's God-given identity.

III. **Calling, Connection, Capacity**

1. **Calling** — Live lives on mission together for the gospel.
2. **Connection** — Creating unforgettable experiences that are unreasonably relational.
3. **Capacity** — Making space for God to move.

IV. Why Identity Matters

- The world's identity:
 - Calling → impress others with what we have → leaves us distracted
 - Capacity → do more to be of more value → makes us anxious and overwhelmed
 - Connection → fear of others' opinions → leads to isolation
- God's Identity:
 - We belong (Calling).
 - We are affirmed (Capacity).
 - We are known and loved (Connection)
 - We are then poured out as salt, shine as light.

Life Group Questions:

1. How salty are you? (in a good way) Where do you tend to hold back your saltiness?
2. Do you really want to be salty or lit? What is your biggest fear in sharing the gospel and how can Jesus help you in that calling?
3. Share a time that being in community was really great! Share a time that it wasn't so great! Why?
4. As we as a church pursue Calling, Connection, and Capacity, which of those 3 in your own life is a strength and which is a weakness. Why?
5. How can you as a LifeGroup live out Missional Community? How can you spread the salt and shine your light better together?