

Sermon Discussion Questions, March 27, 2011
Sermon on the Mount Series-Week Six
Salt & Light-A Different Kind of Influence, Dr. Rod MacIvaine
Matthew 5: 13-16

1st PICTURE (PRIVATE) – You are the salt of the earth. Matthew 5:13
(for additional insight, Luke 14:34-35, Mark 9:49-50, Colossians 4:6, Lev.2:13)

1. What are some ways we use salt today? Why do you think Jesus used salt as a metaphor in the Sermon on the Mount?
2. What is the tense of Matthew 5:13? What is the warning to believers? What causes salt to become tasteless? As the salt of the earth, how can we guard against losing our saltiness?

2nd PICTURE (PUBLIC) - You are the light of the world. Matthew 5:14-16
(for additional insight, 1 Kings 11:36, Psalm 27:1, 119:105, Matthew 4:16)

3. What does darkness symbolize? Based on your answer why is light important? (think spiritually, figuratively, and literally)
4. What does light symbolize? What does Jesus tell his followers to do in regard to light? From what you learned about light, can a true child of God habitually walk in darkness? Why or why not?

PUTTING THE PICTURES TOGETHER- Matthew 5:3-16

5. How are we to be salt and light in culturally appropriate ways? What should be our motivation?
6. What is the world like today? Is it easy or hard to be salt and light? Explain your answer.
7. How are you going to apply what you have learned about salt and light? In what specific places will you expand your sphere of influence?

