

Sierra's Weekly Message Action Plan



Sierra's Weekly Action Plan:

Use this Message Action Plan below to help put the things you learned this weekend into practice. If you missed last weekend's message, go to sierracommunitychurch.org and listen for free.

"Salt, Light, Persecution & Praise"
The King's Speech - Part 2 Matthew 5:11-16
Corbett Robertson - February 21st, 2016

This past Sunday we studied part 2 of our series in Matthew chapters 5 - 7 known as "The Sermon on the Mount"

11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil

against you because of me. **12** Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty

again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:11-16)

This week we looked at the "so what will it look like" if we follow the descriptions of a Christian life Jesus describes in the previous 10 verses that start chapter 5 of Matthew. We saw that (Christians) ARE salt and ARE light and we discussed the primary purpose

of each. Salt is a seasoning that enhances (in the right amount) what it is applied to. It is also a preservative that slows down the decay of meat. Christians are called to both enhance and preserve (by sharing the presence of Jesus) the culture, which means people, with which we live. We also learned it is possible for salt to lose its saltiness and therefore become useless.

That is a clear warning against nominal Christianity.

Christians also carry the light of God through the Holy Spirit and are called to share that light with as many people as possible. We are to put that light “on a stand” so that all can see rather than cover it and dim the light of God within us.

When a Christian lives out either of these principles, they will stand out, as do both salt and light in their respective surroundings. If you stand out because of Jesus presence in your life, you should expect either persecution or praise for our Father in heaven. Either response Jesus says we can rejoice in.

It is also very important for Christians to understand what the purpose of “good deeds” are. Many have confused doing good deeds, or Christian behavior, with what is required to make us right before God. However, justification (being made right before God) is only found in the work of Jesus sacrifice on the cross. We are saved by faith alone, through grace alone, in Christ alone.

Our “works” or good deeds are instead voluntary acts of worship in response to what God has done for us. Our good deeds are never to bring glory to ourselves, but instead point to God as the giver of all that is good. God gets the glory. The testimony of our changed lives show a watching world that God is real and is worthy of worship. We are like the moon in that we do not have light of our own but reflect the light of the sun, or in this case the Son. Live like salt and light, standing out in your surroundings in order to point people to Jesus and expect either persecution or praise for God.

Here are some Scriptures used in the sermon you can study further this week:

2 Timothy 3:12

John 3

John 8

John 14

Jeremiah 20

The book of Daniel

The 4 "Servant Songs" or "Messianic Prophecies" of Isaiah.

Chapters 42, 46, 50, 52-53

Hebrews 10

Romans 12:1

The 5 Old Covenant Sacrifices observed during the time of the Tabernacle

1. Sin offering - mandatory
2. Trespass offering - mandatory
3. Burnt offering - voluntary
4. Grain offering - voluntary
5. Peace offering - voluntary

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to teach this week. It was truly a blessing for me.

I hope you learned something along the way and can praise God for it.

Corbett Robertson

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