

# Sermon Discussion Guide

*Living as Salt and Light*

Matthew 5:13-16

## You are distinct from the world.

Jn 8:23; 17:14-16; Rom 12:1-2; Jas 4:4; 1 Jn 2:15-16; 3:1-3

- How do salt and light imply distinctness from the world?
  - What are ways we can be tempted not to be distincting (or to conform)?
- How do salt and light demand interaction with the world?
  - What are ways that we are tempted to withdraw?
- Which of these phrases from Ligon Duncan is most helpful to you and why?
  - Christians are distinct *from* the world for the sake *of* the world.
  - We are to hate the world without hating the world.
  - We are to love the world without loving the world.
- (the full sermon by Ligon Duncan can be found at <https://www.fpcjackson.org/resource-library/sermons/the-kingdom-citizens-in-the-world>)

## You help preserve the world.

1 Tim 2:1-2; Jer 29:7; Gal 6:10

- How does the preserving nature of salt help us understand our role as Christians?
- What is significant about the command to God's people in Jer 29:4-7?
- How does living our lives well as Christians help serve God's preserving purposes?
- What are ways we can seek to act as salt and preserve the relative good in the world?

## You help save the world.

Isa 42:6-7; 49:6; Matt 4:16; Jn 8:12; 9:5; Acts 13:46-47; 26:22-23; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Pet 3:14-16, Eph 5:8

- Why is it amazing that Jesus says that we are light? (Jn 8:12; Eph 5:8)
- What are the types of deeds that are to characterize Christians – especially from the rest of Matthew 5-7? (See also Phil 2:12-16; Gal 5:22-23)
- How does Peter explain the relationship between truth and deeds in 1 Pet 3:15?
- What are practical ways we can seek out opportunity to let our light shine in the world?