# Sunday – April 27, 2025 New Series: "The Master's Classes"



Matthew 5:13-16

Have you ever been in a situation where you have felt out of your element? The topics, conversations are going in a direction you are not comfortable with and you do not know how to change direction or tone? Jesus has given each of us the ability to influence people and conversations around us each day.

Key Verse. "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:13).

### **BACKGROUND:**

This spring we will continue in Jesus' famous, "Sermon on the Mount." This past Lent the focus was on the introduction to the sermon with "The Beatitudes." In the beatitudes, Jesus focused on the heart and character of being a disciple. Before moving on to how we should live and behave as disciples, he wanted to affirm for each of us what our hearts should look like.

In my journey with Jesus, have I typically focused on my heart or my behaviors? How has that worked for me?

Read *Matthew 5:13-16*. What images does Jesus use to describe each of us? How well do I relate to his pictures of me?

"Every Christian should be sharing their faith. If you are not, you are a failure." Do I agree or disagree with this statement? How does my answer reflect my attitude towards evangelism?

Read *Galatians 2:20, Colossians 1:7, 2 Corinthians 4:10*. What common theme does each of these verses share regarding my relationship with Jesus?

Read 1 Peter 3:14-15. How prepared am I to talk about Jesus' story?

# ONE WAY TO SHARE JESUS' STORY:

# 1. I'm a "good person" do I really need salvation?

*"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard"* (Romans 3:23)

## 2. I'm not a really bad person, is my sin really that bad?

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

### 3. I'm too bad to be saved, how can there be any hope for me?

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8)

## 4. How can I be saved?

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved" (Romans 10:9-10).

# 5. Did God accept me?

"Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

# THIS WEEK:

- Is Jesus' story my story?
- > Do I believe that Jesus' story is compelling enough to share?
- > Do I believe the corruption around me is worth holding back?