Pastor Dave Teixeira
November 22, 2009
Matthew 5:13-16

Please use the space below to take notes on today's message:

Take It Homework

We encourage you to not only do these exercises on your own, but also with a group of friends, co-workers, neighbors, small group or family members.

In this section, Matthew is talking about the call of a "Kingdom of Heaven person" to influence and impact the world in which they live. This is not a self-defined "saltiness," but one defined by the Beatitudes in verses 3-10. So, what Jesus is ultimately saying is that when we live in and become beatitude people, we will be making a Kingdom impact.

What is the result of Kingdom impact? Verses 6 and 10 summarize the two main sections of the Beatitudes, and both tell us what the result of the Kingdom is: righteousness...things becoming right with God. This includes people and their relationship with God, but more than that as well.

Read Matthew 5:13-16.

- What does Jesus mean by saltiness?

- Jesus uses harsh language about salt that has lost its saltiness. He pretty much says it's useless. Why?

One thing about salt and light is that they only function when they interact with stuff. Salt must be "put on" food. Light must shine into darkness. Jesus is telling us that to live in the Kingdom is to live in and engage the world. This is not a "run from the world" passage, but one that teaches us to change the world.

"World" = places where God's will and ways are not being lived out.

- Where are some places that your life intersects with the world? Name situations where you see things happening that are not righteous (right with God).

- Do you run from those places or do you influence them? Why?

Verse 14 says that a city on a hill cannot be hidden. In other words, your life is shining. It is saying or proclaiming something. You can't hide it. So, think about it...

- What does your marriage say about following Jesus?
- What does your check book say about following Jesus?
- What does your schedule say about following Jesus?
- What does the opinion of your co-workers say about your walk with Jesus?

- Jesus says to let people see your "good deeds." In Greek that means "beautiful deeds." What are some of your beautiful deeds?

- Who is someone who shined a beautiful deed on you today?

- What are some ways to shine beautiful deeds?