

## Matthew 5:13

*You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.*

Are you salt that only stays in the saltshaker?

Have you ever seen an old saltshaker that has had the same salt in it for months or even years? You turn it over and shake it to see if any salt comes out. But you're not really surprised when it doesn't. So you take the top off of the shaker and take a knife and dig around in it to soften the salt, because it has gotten all hard and crusty and useless, and you just want to get that old salt out of there so that you can put fresh new salt in it.

Unfortunately, there are churches or a lot of people in the churches that are just like that salt. All they want to do is hang around and be with other grains of salt. So they go to church just for that very purpose. Most of the time they don't even do anything in the church, other than hang with other grains of salt. But if you get a grain of pepper in there, they are the first to complain, because it's a saltshaker, not a peppershaker. You peppers keep to your own shaker (the world) and leave us salts to our happy little selves in this saltshaker (the church).

Along with salt, in the same paragraph, Jesus also says that *you are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.*

### Matthew 5:14-15

Yet how many are just a lightbulb sitting in a light store?

Have you ever been to a light store where they sell all different types of lights? Hanging lights, standing lights, tabletop lights, outdoor lights, different color lights. But what good are they in the store other than lighting up the store. But we are not called to light up the inside of the church, but rather we *are the light of the world.*

That tells me that we need to get out of the light store (the church) or allow the Lord to take the saltshaker (the church) and start doing some shaking so that the grains will come out and do some good outside the church.

✠ **Mark 16:15** *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."*