

# CHARACTER OF A LEADER

STAYING SALTY IN A TASTELESS WORLD

Part 1

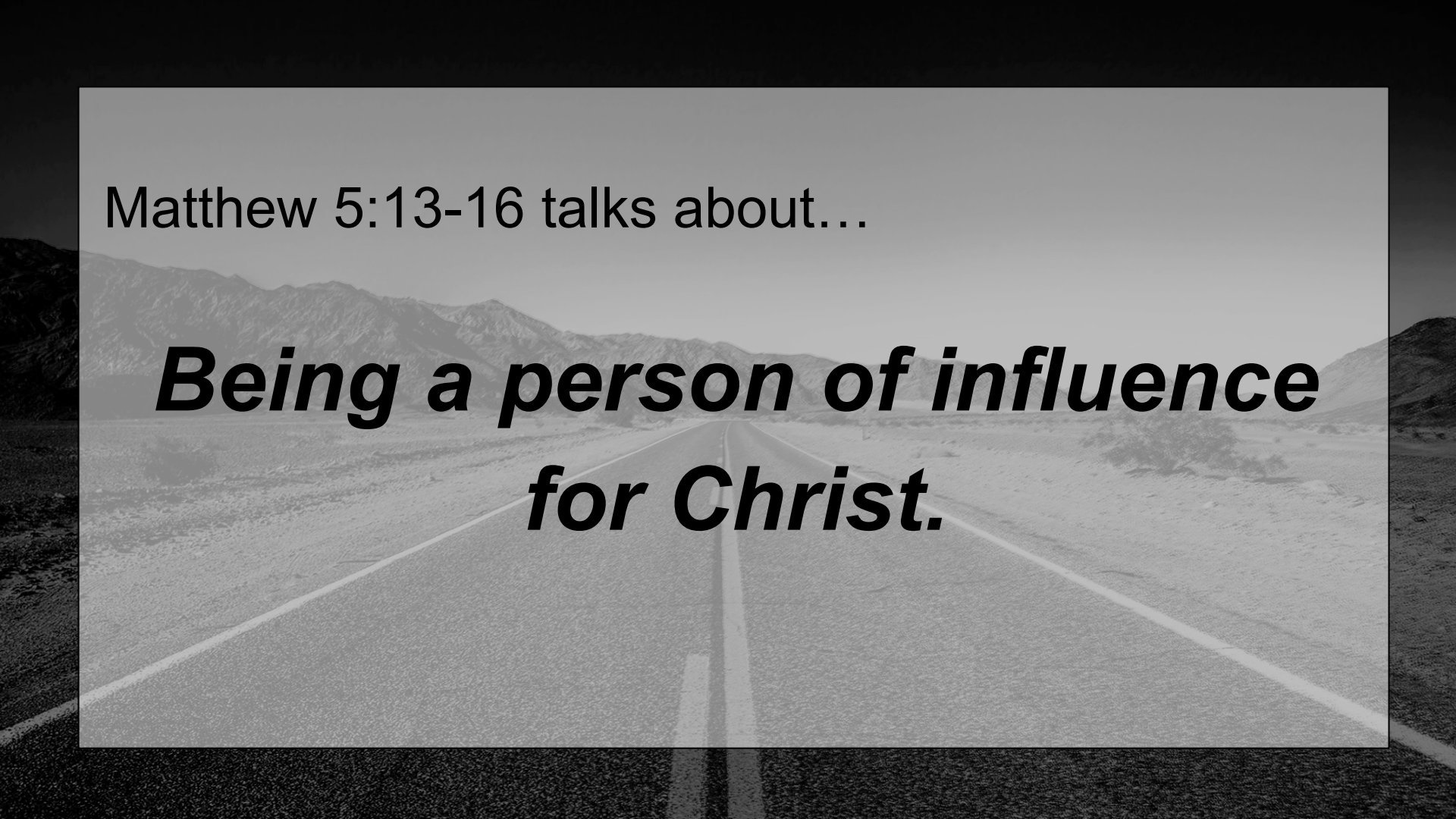


GATHERING OF MEN | APRIL 26, 2017  
THE TOLSON GROUP . COM



**Are you contributing to  
the problems of our  
times...**

**Or are you a part of the  
solution?**



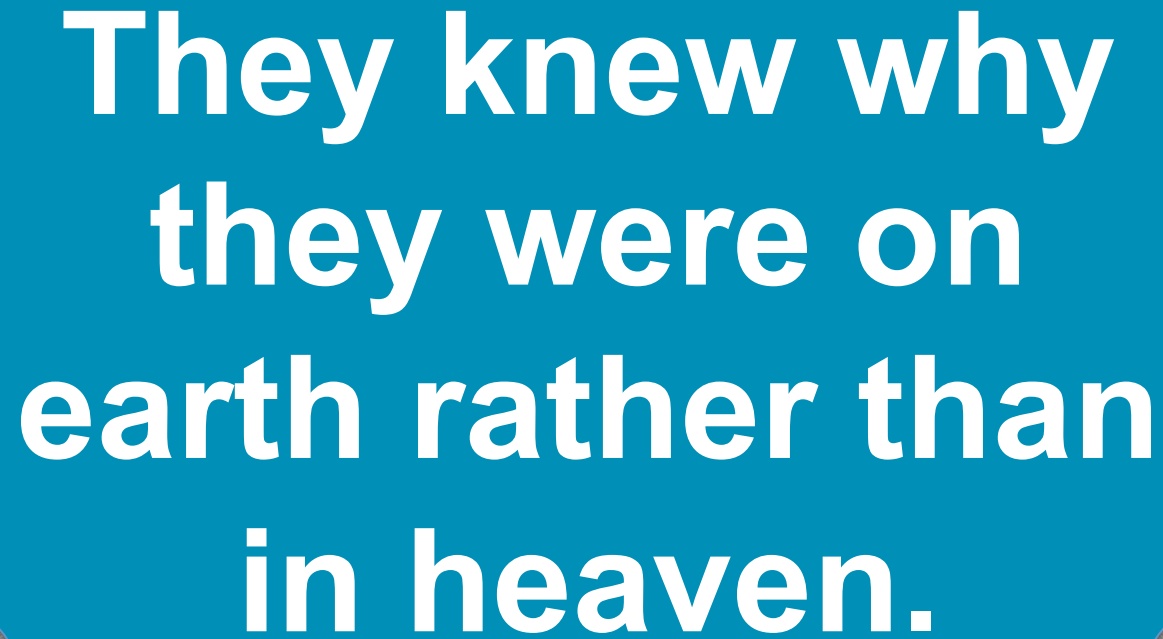
Matthew 5:13-16 talks about...

***Being a person of influence  
for Christ.***

The background is a grayscale photograph of a desert landscape with a road leading towards mountains. Overlaid on this is a large, solid blue cross shape. Inside the cross, the text is written in white.

**What message do  
you leave others as you  
pass by?**





**They knew why  
they were on  
earth rather than  
in heaven.**



**Christianity is having an  
identity crisis!**



The church of 80 A.D. & 2017 have such a disparity.

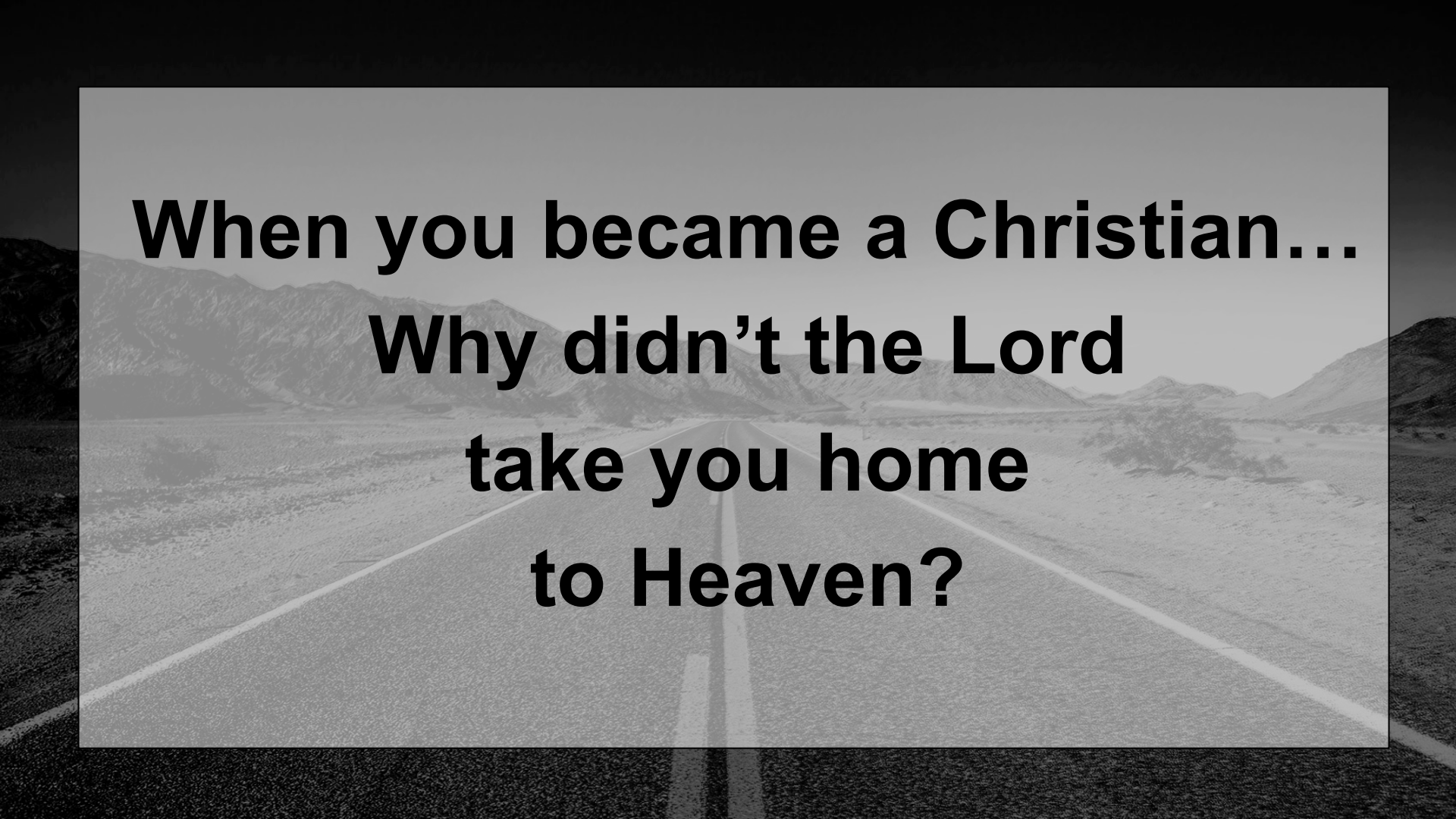
Why?

We have the same **PERSON!**

We have the same **POWER!**

The **PURPOSE** is out of focus!





**When you became a Christian...  
Why didn't the Lord  
take you home  
to Heaven?**



Why does the Lord leave us here?

- TEXT: Matthew 5:13-16
- CONTEXT: Matthew 5:1-12  
Matthew 5-7

*Instructions by the KING for  
subjects in the KINGDOM*



Matthew 5:1-12

**CHARACTER**

Matthew 5:13-16

**CHARACTERISTICS**

# I. The Presupposition

(The world is messed up...)

## A. The Biblical description of the world

### 1. Main Scripture

- Difficult – II Timothy 3:1-7
- Depraved – II Timothy 3:8-9
- Isaiah 53:6
- Isaiah 64:6-7
- Deceived – II Timothy 3:13

## 2. More Scripture

- Genesis 6:5
- Psalm 51:5
- Isaiah 1:5
- Jeremiah 17:9
- Romans 1:18-32

B. Cultural description

C. Response to the Gospel

- Romans 3

D. Optimistic humanism



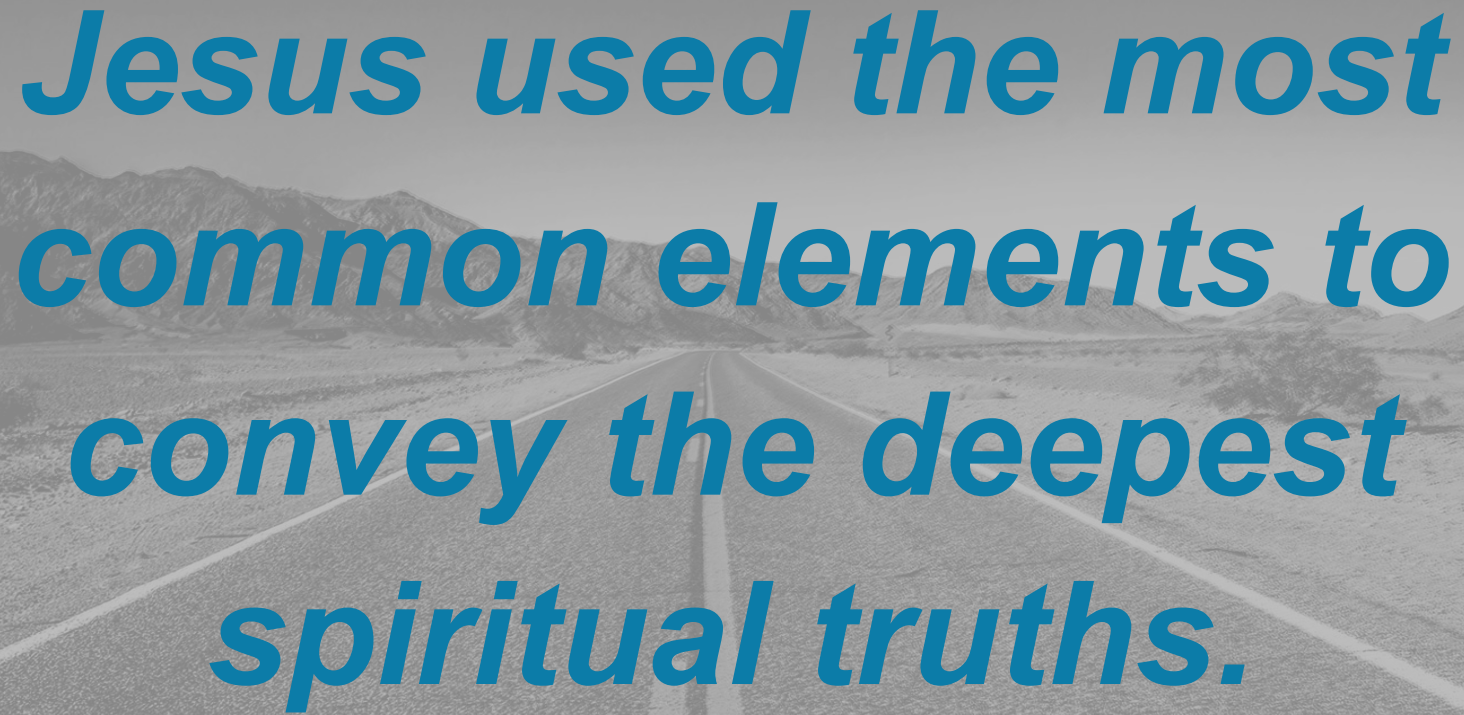
## II. The Plan

- I Peter 2:9
- Matthew 5:13
  - *“You are salt...”*
  - *“You”*
    - Emphatic pronoun
    - Plural (the whole body joined together)
  - *“Are”*
    - Because Christ is in you!



**Question....**

**Are you a salty  
Christian?**



***Jesus used the most  
common elements to  
convey the deepest  
spiritual truths.***

The genius of Christianity  
is not the vehicle through  
whom God accomplishes  
His purposes...it is the  
PERSON indwelling that  
instrument.

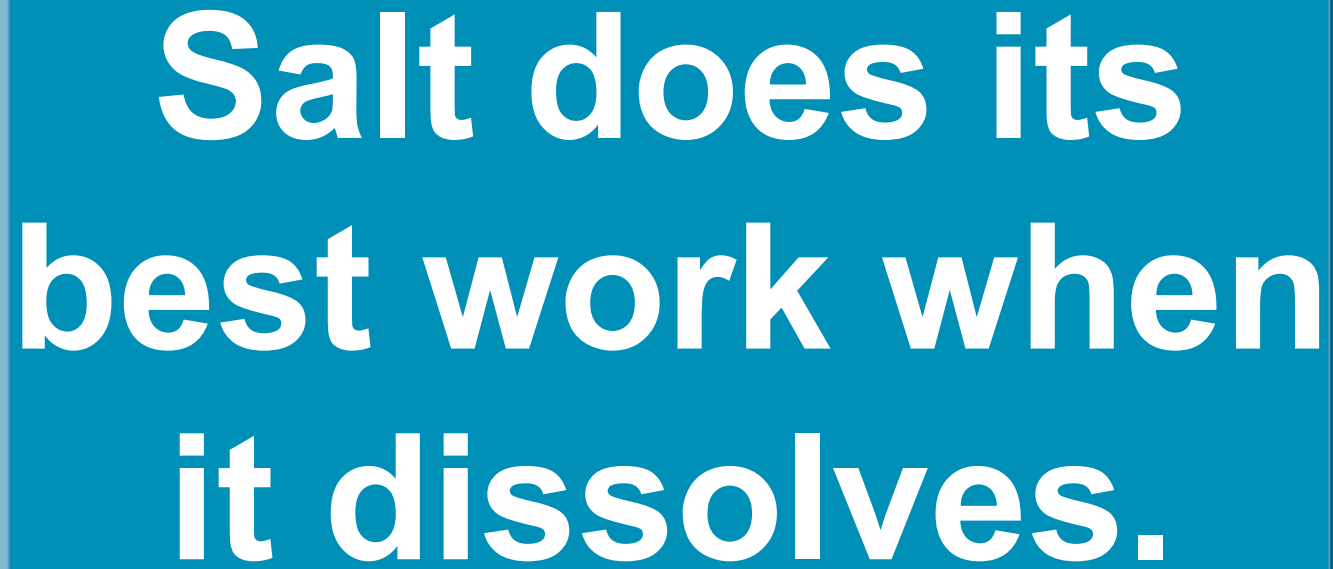





**SALT**

## A. Salt Preserves

- Salt prevented corruption...
- Be salty
  - At home
  - At work
  - In politics
  - In relationships
  - In all areas of life



**Salt does its  
best work when  
it dissolves.**



What keeps you from dissolving?

FEAR?

SELFISH INTERESTS?



## A. Salt Preserves

- Salt prevented corruption...
- Be salty
  - At home
  - At work
  - In politics
  - In relationships
  - In all areas of life
- Mark 4:1-20

## B. Salt Purifies





**NO SALT YIELDS  
MUCH SIN**

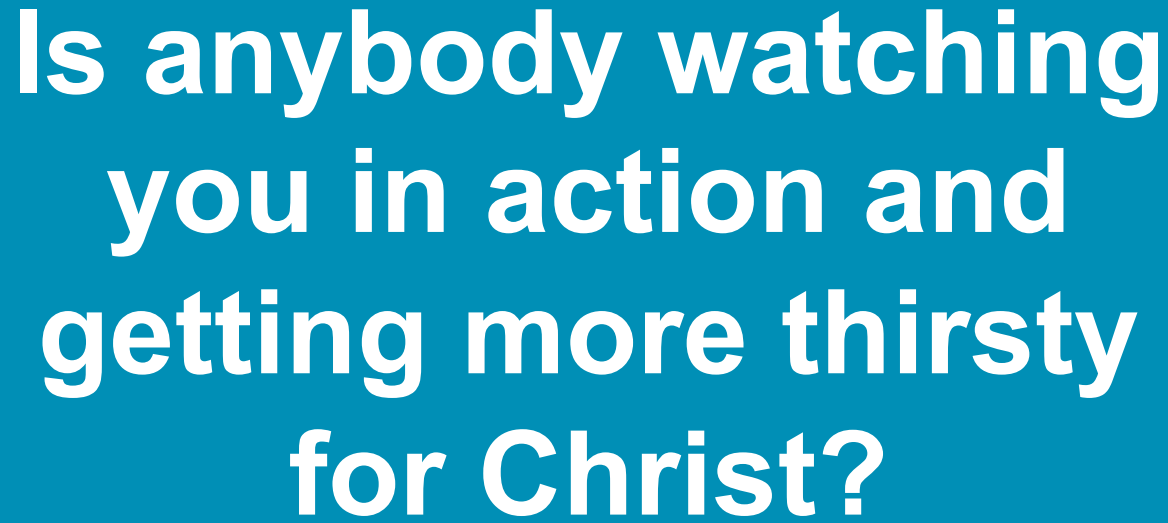
B. Salt Purifies

C. Salt Perfects

1. Creates thirst







**Is anybody watching  
you in action and  
getting more thirsty  
for Christ?**



B. Salt Purifies

C. Salt Perfects

1. Creates thirst
2. Enriches taste

***New Christians are only good for 2  
years as far as influence on  
non-Christians.***



**What do we do with  
salt in the church?**



**We want or think non-  
Christians are going to  
come to church.**



Verse 13 -

*If you are not salty...  
of what use are you?*



**If you don't function  
as salt...**


**What is the purpose  
of your existence?**

# APPLICATION

*Where could you be salt this week?*

- ✓ Home
- ✓ Work
- ✓ Society

**Challenge people to consider  
Christ!**



**Pagans in the early  
church stayed up at  
night...**





**How do we stay  
salty?**