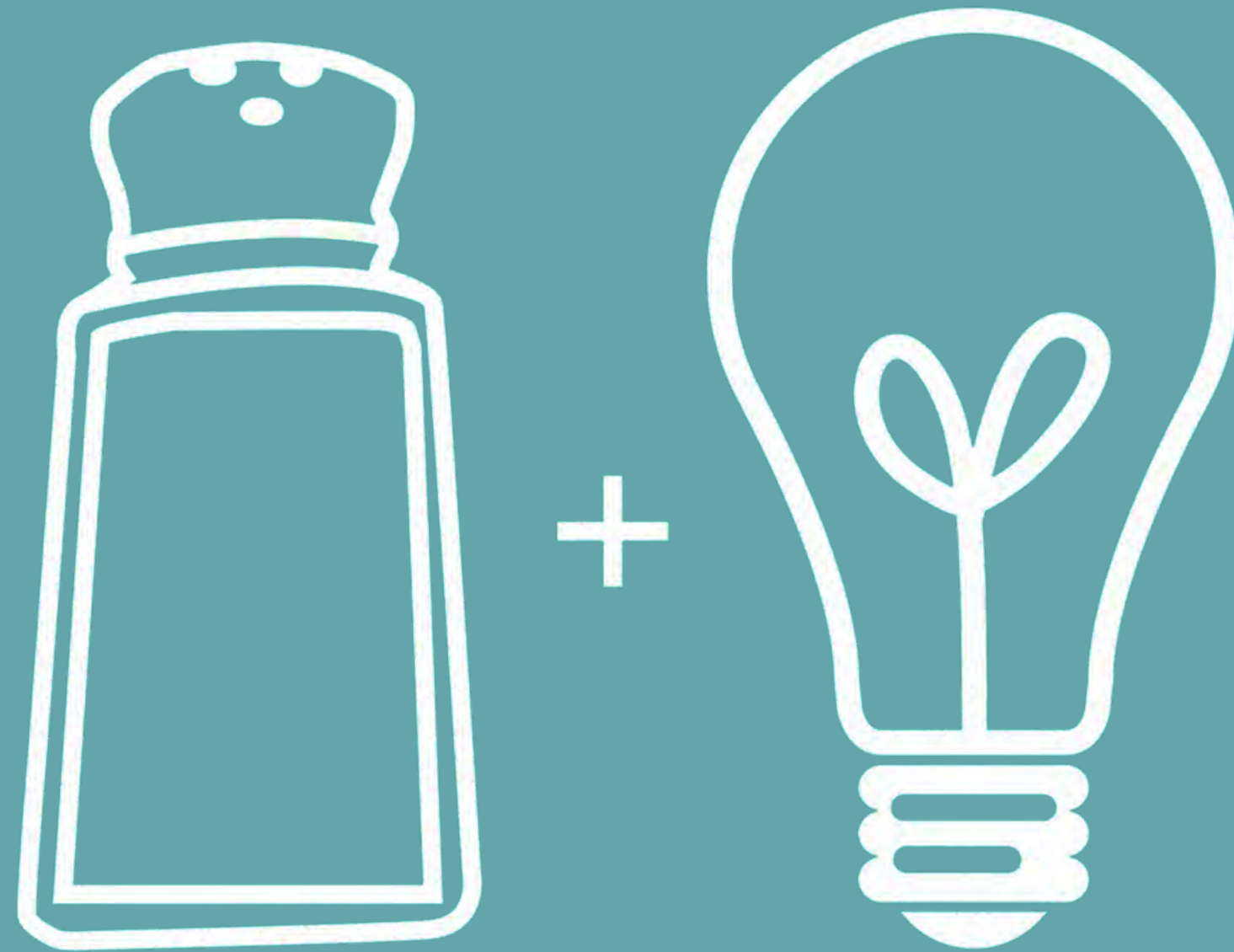


WORD

WITH PS SIMON SAY



SALT THE EARTH & LIGHT THE WORLD!

Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV 1984)

MATTHEW 5:13-16
(NIV 1984)

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.



SALT (5:13)

- **Valuable.** "Salary" derived from '*salarium*', meaning 'salt as currency'.
- **Food preservative.** To *increase* shelf life of product.
- **Flavour enhancer.** To *improve* taste of product.
- *Influences* other products to enhance its properties or performance.

As salt of the earth, Jesus' Mandate to us is to Influence men through our godly (wise) Character.



LIGHT (5:14-16)

- 'Light of the world' is an *exclusive title* given to certain Jewish luminaries.
- Purpose is to *shine out in the darkness*.
- Light is *never hidden* (v14-15)
- Light of God includes *good works* and the *giving of the gospel* (v16).

As light of the world, Jesus' Mission to us is to Impact men through our Good Conduct and the giving of the Gospel.



People don't enjoy salt. They enjoy what is salted.
We are the salt of the earth. We do not exist for ourselves.

JOHN PIPER

The object of our shining is not that men may see how good we are, nor even see us at all, but that they may see grace in us and God in us, and cry, 'What a Father these people must have.'"

CHARLES SPURGEON



SUMMARY OF MATTHEW 5:13-16

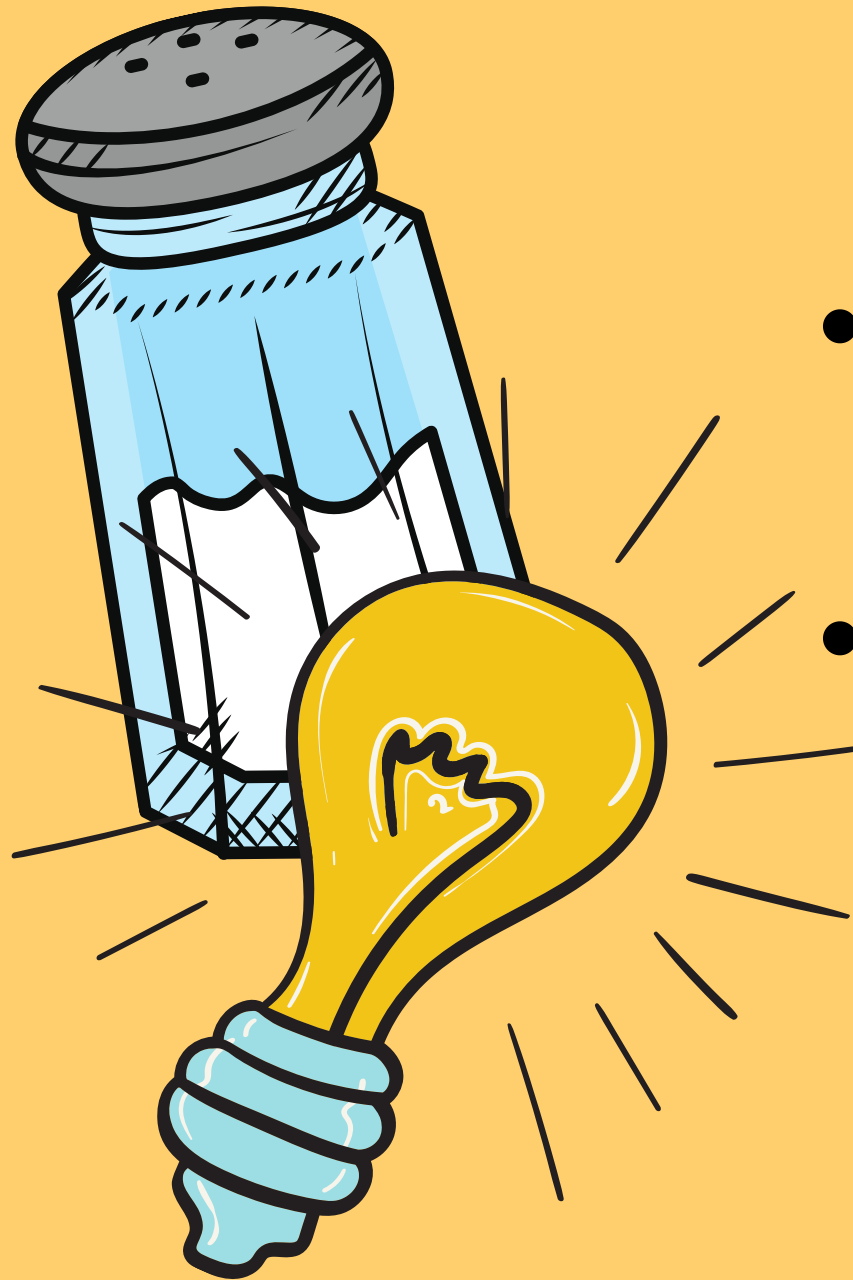
What marks the imagery of salt and light is distinction. Salt is needed because the world is rotting and decaying, and if our Christianity is also rotting and decaying, it won't be any good. Light is needed because the world is in darkness and if our Christianity imitates the darkness, we have nothing to show the world. As salt and light, God's children are to fulfil both God's mandate and mission. The mandate and mission is marked by our being and doing, our character and conduct respectively. Therefore go, salt the earth and light the world!

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE THE SALT AND LIGHT?

Jesus demonstrated for us what it takes to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. For 2023,

SALT

- What are some areas of your character that needs further development?
- How can you be a godly influence to your family, friends, strangers?



LIGHT

- What good works will you engage to shine brighter?
- To whom will you give the gospel message to?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Think of your areas of influence e.g. class, school, office, neighbourhood. Who can you influence in 2023?
- Which character trait/s do you need to develop further to influence others better?
- What good works must you undertake in shine brighter for Jesus?
- List the people whom will you share the gospel message with in 2023?