

Salt and Light

Monday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 5:1-10

Think about the following:

- ➔ What does it mean to be “blessed”?
- ➔ Does it seem like the people listed are “blessed”?
- ➔ Why do you think Jesus would call these people blessed?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, as we look to you this week, help us to be among the “blessed” Jesus spoke about in the beatitudes. Give us strength to live in you each day. Amen.

Tuesday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 5:11-12

Think about the following:

- ➔ Why do you think Jesus was letting the people know they would be insulted?
- ➔ Why would they be blessed because of these insults?
- ➔ What is the reward we receive?
- ➔ How valuable is this reward?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us not to be afraid of the insults we may receive when we share our faith with others. Give us strength to boldly proclaim your Gospel. In Jesus name, Amen.

Wednesday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 5:13

Think about the following:

- ➔ What kinds of things do we use salt for?
- ➔ Why was salt important in the past (Jesus’ time)? Why is it important now?
- ➔ Why do you think Jesus called us the “salt of the earth”?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you call us to be the salt of the earth. Forgive us when we don’t act according to your will. Restore us so that we may serve you this week. In Jesus name. Amen.

Thursday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 5:14-16

(With Children: get a candle and turn out the lights...then light the candle and ask, “how bright is this candle now?” talk about how the candlelight makes them feel and talk about how Jesus calls US to be a light in the darkness.)

Think about the following:

- ➔ How important is light in our everyday life? What would life be like if we were always in the dark? (Think about the people far up north during the winter)
- ➔ Why do we often want to hide our “light”?
- ➔ According to this passage, who should receive the praise for our “good deeds”? Why?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we don’t always show our light, forgive us. Help us to go forth and be a light in the darkness. May our “good deeds” give praise and honour to you. In Jesus name. Amen.

Friday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 5:17-20

Think about the following:

- ➔ How has Jesus fulfilled the law?
- ➔ Is the law still important today?
- ➔ What are the three uses of the law? (*see The Small Catechism - look it up online if you don’t have a copy***)
- ➔ What does verse 20 tell us about trying to gain our salvation through observing the law?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to fulfill the law when we couldn’t. Thank you for His sacrifice on the cross for our salvation. Help us to share this beautiful message with those you have put in our life. In Jesus name, Amen.

Note from the webmaster:

** If you have a copy of the Small Catechism that our congregation uses to teach confirmation, go to page 94 and see question 77. This explanation is not available online. Instead do a Google search on “The three uses of the Law”. The answer is in Article VI of the Formula of Concord, and simplified in a [brief three word summary in an article on “Law and Gospel” on Wikipedia](#).