

*Re-Imagining The Godly Man: Pass the Salt*

I. Opening Prayer

II. Objectives

- To teach/review biblical scripture (key texts) that will encourage, and inspire men, that the Word of God, and lessons learned in 2020, we have new opportunities to strengthen our character “Pass the Salt’ i.e. contribute to the building of God’s Kingdom.
- Teach/Discuss the attributes of a Godly man (character, conversation, and conduct)
- To engage in discussion, how men can discern our talents, spiritual gifts, how to change, what we need to change, or increase, individually and collectively, to strengthen our families, communities, church, for God’s glory, and contribute to the building of His Kingdom

III. Conclusion

IV. Summary: Feedback, Assessment, Looking Ahead

V. Closing Prayer

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Theme/Key Texts

A. (Re-Imagining Ministry ..To Serve the present age (First Episcopal District AME Church Fall Convocation Theme, 2020)

“Therefore, seeing we have this ministry...” “...and He gave gifts unto His people...” “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ”

1. II Corinthians 4:1a (KJV): Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;
2. Ephesians 4:8d (NLT): Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
3. Ephesians 4:12 (KJV): For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

B. Pass the Salt

1. Matthew 5:13-*Salt and Light*: “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 underfoot.
2. Mark 9:50: “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.” (ref: Luke 14:34-35)

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3. Luke 14:34-35: <sup>34</sup> “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? <sup>35</sup> It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

**Definition of Believer:**

1 Thessalonians 1:6-10(NIV):

<sup>6</sup> You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. <sup>7</sup> And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. <sup>8</sup> The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, <sup>9</sup> for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

**Does our knowledge of God make us a believer?**

**What does it mean that believers are to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16)?**

Jesus used the concepts of salt and light a number of different times to refer to the role of His followers in the world. One example is found in [Matthew 5:13](#): “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.”

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**What sorts of things can hinder or prevent Christians from fulfilling their role, as salt and light in the world?**

Mark 9:50 tells us Saltiness can be lost specifically through a lack of peace with one another

In this text, we find a reference to the metaphor of salt once again, this time in the context of obedient discipleship to Jesus Christ. The loss of saltiness occurs in the failure of the Christian to daily take up the cross and follow Christ wholeheartedly.

Believers in Christ are preservatives to the world, preserving it from the evil inherent in the society of ungodly men whose unredeemed natures are corrupted by sin ([Psalm 14:3](#); [Romans 8:8](#)). “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

**Answer:** Ungodly character, conversation, and conduct

***How can we increase our saltiness and light?***

**Answer:** Through Obedience to God, allowing ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit, and as Light Bearers (John 1: 1-16)

Psalm 1 (NIV): Blessed is the one (man/woman) who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,<sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. <sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and

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whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.<sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.<sup>6</sup> For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**What are the key Godliness words in this text, Psalm1?** (ref MHC)

**Brain Pop: Below are some of the characteristics of a Godly Man.**

**Which ones are missing, if any?**

- Know God (John 3:16, Roman 20:10)
- Believe in God (Romans 10:10)
- Study His word
- Integrity/Honesty (Titus 2:7)
- Have Faith/Trust in God (Mat 6:33)
- Led by the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:6-8,1 Corinthians 12:6-10)
- Love one another ( Matthew 22:36-40)
- Have/share wisdom (Proverbs)
- Are Forgiving (Col 3:13)

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- Are generous in giving their finances, talents mission, and outreach

**Godly men know and use their Spiritual gifts:** Spiritual gifts intertwine the Divine and the Human. Spiritual in nature, they are given by the Holy Spirit to every believer (1 Corinthians 12:7-11). Each gift is a manifestation of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:7). Spiritual gifts are 'spiritual' in that they are given only to those who are believers in Jesus Christ. Also, spiritual gifts differ from human talents and abilities in that they result in 'spiritual' fruit.

**Key Texts**

1. John 3:16: God's greatest gift to mankind
2. 2 Timothy 1:7: For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.
3. Ephesians 4
4. 1 Peter 4:10-11: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

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5. Matthew 5:14-16: "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 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. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
6. Galatians 5:22-23: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.
7. Romans 12:6-8: 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. (ref Great Commission-Matthew 28:16-20)

***Closing question?***

***What is/are ultimate goal (s) of Godly men?***