

Salt



Matthew 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. NRSV

Devotion

My brother in law is a gourmet chef. This was not his vocation, but he learned it along the way. Let's just say when we visit, we eat like royalty. One of the things he taught me is that salt comes in all different sizes, shapes, colors and flavors. Who knew? Professional chefs use the right salt at the right time in the cooking process.

I doubt Jesus had the diversity of salt in mind when he said these words in the Sermon on the Mount. However, the variety of salts is relevant these days. During the recent protests over racial injustice, one question difficult question keeps arising: "How do we fix this?" People are searching for a singular solution to a multi layered issue. It may be that there are many different solutions. Every city, town and neighborhood in our country is unique. Addressing injustice in these cities, towns and neighborhoods may be just as unique. I am not discounting the need for broad, national change.

In these days, the creative ideas about moving forward can be just as diverse as the types of salt. The key is to stay salty and move forward with all of our sisters and brothers.

Prayer

God, unite your children. Help us all be the right salt at the right time in the right place. Amen.