



# The Astounding Influence of Christians

Matthew 5:13-16

# 1. The influence of salt – v.13



Salt was used as:-

- a. A preservative
- b. Seasoning
- c. Fertiliser

# Kingdom-disciples are like salt



## a. Their qualities

1. Forgiven sinners-poor in spirit, mourners, meek
2. United to Jesus- hungry for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers
3. Willing to suffer for Jesus

## b. Their influence



### 1. Stopping decay

- example of their lives
- acting in society

### 2. Making the Gospel attractive – v.16, 1Pet.2:12

We are called to be different

## 2. The impact of light – v.14-16



Light dispels darkness so we see what is there

### a. Disciples qualities

1. Know the realities of sin and forgiveness
2. Display the character of Jesus
3. Joyful in suffering

### b. Impact

1. Lives and deeds –v.16;Phil.2:14-16;Eph.5:8-11
2. Proclaiming the Gospel

### 3. Making an impact



- a. Distinctive – “Be what you are”- v.3-12
- b. Involved – “Out of the saltshaker”; on a stand
- c. “Declaring God’s glory among the nations”
  - 1. Salt & light in Reading – as individuals, families, church, with other churches –
  - 2. Salt & light in our world