

Lesson 2 – Salt and Light

What should our attitude and posture be when interacting with the lost? How do we take a firm stand and yet do so graciously? In this lesson we will that our lifestyle and our speech impact our interactions with those questioning the faith.

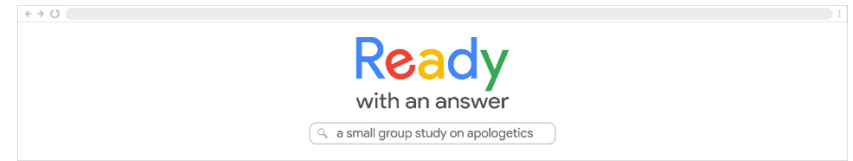
The Right Walk

Apologetics begins long before someone gives us a hard question. We defend the faith not just by what we say, but by how we live.

Doing _____ (Matthew 5:13-16)

Jesus commands His disciples to live as salt and light so that through their good works they might glorify their Father in heaven.

- **Believers should be _____ – they should live differently (5:13).**
Christians are important and valuable to the culture, but only if they are different! If they lose their “saltiness” they cease to make a difference. Our behavior should set us apart from others. If we don’t look and act differently from the people around us, we become useless and what we say will make little to no difference.
- **Believers should be _____ – they should point to God (5:14-16).**
Not only should we be different, but we seek to be actively doing good. Jesus compares the good deeds of His disciples as a light that goes out for all to see. While our good works don’t contribute



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Not only should we be different, but we seek to be actively doing good. Jesus compares the good deeds of His disciples as a light that goes out for all to see. While our good works don’t contribute

to our salvation, the expectation is that they will flow out of our salvation (cf Ephesians 2:8-10; James 2:14-26).

_____ in _____ (Colossians 4:5)

Living as citizens of heaven while making our pilgrimage through earth makes for some interesting and challenging scenarios. Paul challenges the Colossian believers that as they live for Christ they must walk in wisdom toward unbelievers. As they seek to obey Christ there will be challenging situations that arise, and so they must use wisdom in their interactions with others.

The Right Speech

What we say is important, but so is how we say it. Our speech is important because when we speak we represent our King.

Our Speech Should Be _____ (Colossians 4:6; 2 Timothy 2:22-26; 1 Peter 3:15)

Paul ties together right conduct and right speech when sharing the faith in **Colossians 4:5-6**. He begins by telling us that we should walk in wisdom towards outsiders, but then helps us see what that looks like in our speech. In **2 Timothy 2:22-26** Paul instructs Timothy on how to live as a Christian minister, being patient with all people. This gentle meekness may be used by God to bring someone to a point of repentance. Finally, Peter makes a similar point in **1 Peter 3:15** by stating that we are supposed to answer questions with meekness (or gentleness) and fear.

Our Speech Should Be _____ (Romans 1:16-17)

Having a gracious attitude doesn't mean shy away from making uncomfortable statements. If we genuinely preach the gospel, even if we do it in the kindest way possible, Christ warned us that the result will be a whole lot of division (Matthew 10:34-37). We want to make sure that if people are offended, they are offended at the message and not the delivery of the message. But people will be offended by the message and that shouldn't stop us!

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