



Salt of the Earth, Light of the World

(NLT) "13You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. 14You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus uses the imagery of salt and light to illustrate the kingdom living that comes from following the beattitudes. Salt played a critical role in the ancient world. The word "salary" comes from the word for salt as soldiers were sometimes paid their wages in salt. Because of its worth there were unscrupulous trades in "fool's salt," substances that appeared the same as this vital, crystalline substance, but had none of the benefits. Salt functioned as a preservative. It provided a necessary mineral to the diet. It also provided flavor to food, in addition to other uses. It appears from the text that the function of salt to enhance the taste of food may be what Jesus has in mind. Either that or the means for testing the worth of your salt was tasting. *"What good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again?"* If you had purchased "fake" salt in the marketplace, there was nothing you could do about it. Fool's salt was simply tossed out as useless.

As salt played a critical role in the daily life for those during the time of Christ, light also played a critical role, especially in terms of safety. For travelers, the lights of the cities provided critical navigational tools. If a traveler completed a journey after sunset, the

primary orientation was the lights of the cities. Almost all cities in the ancient world sat on "hilltops" as a protection against attack. Based on the topology of the land, the lights of the cities could be seen for miles around, functioning as a directional map. Light was also critical in daily activities. Lamps in houses functioned much the same way for a household as city lights functioned for the traveler. The reason a person would light a lamp was to provide assistance to everyone in the house. The burning lamp provided the necessary illumination for someone to walk safely from one place to another within an otherwise dark house.

Disciples of Jesus were to be salt and light. In other words, the life of a disciple should function as spiritually essential elements to the life and safety of their culture. How then, do the disciples of Jesus Christ exhibit the attributes of salt and light? The basis of a disciple's saltiness and the source of the disciple's light is good works. "In the same way..." meaning, in the same way that salt and light impact everyone around so the disciples life should impact everyone around. "In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see." Good works provides the medium for disciples to be salt and light. Paul says it this way in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Believers in Christ Jesus have been made for the sake of doing good works. God created us with good works in mind. God created us with the intent that good works would play a continuous and significant role in our lives because we are to "walk in them."



The danger comes from the internal heart issues surrounding disciples when good works are involved. The motive for a disciple's good deeds is God's glory. "In this way, let your good deeds shine for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." The phrase, "so that," speaks volumes to the risk of good works without proper motive. We are to do good works with the praise of God our Father constantly on our minds. Juxtapose this idea with the words of Jesus about those giving, praying and fasting in the very next chapter of Matthew 6. In Chapter 6, Jesus chastises self-glorifying religious works. "Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven." Two distinctives appear between chapter 5 and chapter 6 in Matthew's Gospel. First, the type of good works in mind in chapter 5 seem to be the types of actions found in the beatitudes, such as humility, mercy, peacemaking, pursuing righteousness, and bearing testimony to Christ. In chapter 6, the works are all outward, religious activities, giving, praying and fasting. The second distinctive when contrasting chapter 5 and 6 comes from the motive of the individual. In chapter 5, the motive is the praise of God. Chapter 6 identifies the motive of giving, praying and fasting that produces no benefit, praise of self. God's glory must drive our motivation for performing good works. We do not seek glory for ourselves if we are to be salt and light. We do not seek glory for the good works themselves, if we are truly functioning as salt and light. Instead, salt and light in the disciple's life materialize when the good works direct others to the glory of God, "so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

~ Daniel

Daylight Savings Time Ends



Children's Ministry



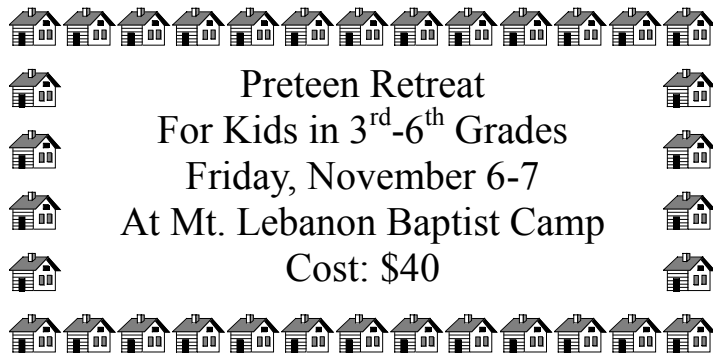
Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade
6:30pm - 8:00pm

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained, and have turned 3 by Sept. 1st. A parent must stay on campus through the duration of the program. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you.

Sunday Nights 5:30pm
Front Lawn of
Worship Center



This Fall we are studying 1 John & Revelation. Join us as we learn what it means to be a disciple committed to going out into the world to make disciples! For K - 6th Grade.



Preteen Retreat
For Kids in 3rd-6th Grades
Friday, November 6-7
At Mt. Lebanon Baptist Camp
Cost: \$40



Sunday School

Join us every Sunday
morning from
9:45-10:45am as we journey
through the Gospel Project.
This fall we restart
"In the Beginning"



Student Ministry

Hey leaders and parents!

Here's what is coming to the Student Ministry this fall:

☞ Youth Fall Retreat, November 20th-21st, Mt Lebanon, more info to come

Weekly Bible Studies

High School Guys (9-12th) @ Geisendorffs, Mondays 6:30pm (Tim Wittman)

High School Girls @ Christine Wehrli & Maggie Dean, Thursdays 6:30pm (Christine & Maggie)

High School Guys (Students in area) @ Kings, Mondays 6:30pm (Weston Southers)

Middle School Guys @ Hines, Mondays 6:30pm-8pm (Jonathan Phipps)

Middle School Girls @ Halsells, Mondays 7:00pm - 8:00pm (Tiffanye Phipps)

Athletes Guys Bible Study @ MRBC, Mondays 6:00pm (Zach)

Also be praying for these students and teachers as they help start small groups/Bible studies at their schools: P7 Bible Clubs with Preston Rose and Nick King @Dubiski, FCA @ South Grand Prairie with Ms. Traci, FCA at Truman M.S. with Mr. Wade, FCA at Reagan M.S. with Brent, FCA at Kennedy Leadership Academy, FCA at Arlington H.S. with Christine Wehrli, Fine Arts Academy Lunch Bible study, and Jackson M.S. FCA with Sam Bonzi.

Music Ministry



Sing to the LORD a new song; Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless His name;

Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day.

Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples.

Psalm 96:1-3 (NASB)

It's not too late to join us as we prepare to celebrate Christmas at Matthew Road. We are saving a place for YOU in our ensembles! There are no auditions, so please join us this Wednesday night!

Children's Choir: 6:00-6:30, Education Building (2nd floor)

Youth Choir: 5:45-6:15, Choir Room (Behind Sanctuary)

Adult Choir: 6:30-7:30, Sanctuary

Grace



Christmas season is almost here and, as has been our tradition in years past, we would like to provide gifts for all of the children in the orphanage. The current political situation in Mexico, the import/export tax law requirements and the time restraints, necessitate that this be completed a little differently than in years past. Therefore, we are requesting monetary donations for the purchase of gifts for the children. Gifts and clothing will be purchased in Mexico to insure appropriate fit and style.

If this is something you would like to participate in. please drop your offering in an envelope marked "Grace Christmas."

***In order to get the monies to the orphanage in time, we are requesting that all gifts be given by December 6th.**

Women's Ministry



Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings

Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich
- the book of Timothy
Joy Richards & Chris Anderson
- the book of Acts

Sunday nights

Meg Trihus & Others
- the book of Acts

Wednesday Nights

Cyndi King
- the book of Luke

Friday Mornings, Chick Fil A

Cyndi King
- The book of Luke



SAVE THE DATE

- January 16th - Painting with a Master, more info to come
- July 6th - 11th - Women's Ministry Trip to Destin, cost \$350, more info to come

Thanksgiving Feast



PAW



Preschool Academy of Westchester (PAW) is a quality preschool program for children ages 9 months - 5 years old. Your children will enjoy their classroom activities planned around our curriculum, "Wee Learn" (published by LifeWay).

At our program, your child will learn about sharing, healthy living, academics, music, American Sign Language, the Bible, manners, cooperation and giving. It is a time for both you and your children to enjoy.

Schedule: We are a Monday & Wednesday preschool. Our hours are 9am - 2pm.

Tuition and Fees: Please call for tuition, fees and policy information.

Pease call Cyndi King, at 972-641-7380,
for more information about our program.

Women's Retreat

March 4- 5, 2016

Waco, Texas

Beth Moore Living Proof, Live

Cost: \$90.00 per person if registered by November 3rd. This includes the cost for the conference and hotel room. (Fairfield)

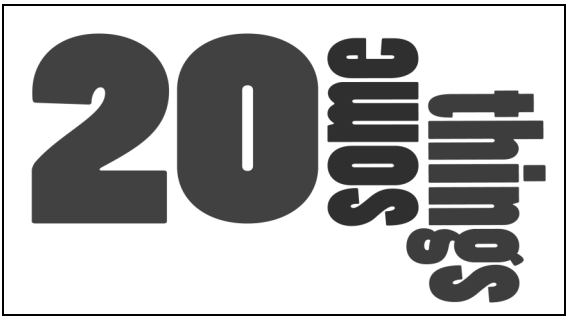
- \$45.00 due at registration
- After November 4th, cost is 100.00
- Saturday breakfast is included, you will be responsible for dinner Friday night and lunch Saturday.

For more information, you can go to the website:
<http://www.lifeway.com/n/Product-Family/Living-Proof-Live>

Questions, or to RSVP, please contact Rachel
at rachel@matthewroad.org

Reservations due Nov. 3rd for early bird cost!

20Somethings



Activities:

- ☺ June, 2016: Destin, cost \$350
- ☺ August, 2016: Mission trip to Mexico, cost \$250

Classes:

- ~ Sunday Morning 9:45 am: Daniel Sweet leading Explore God, part of the Explore God.com movement (Ed Bldg)
- ~ Sunday Night 5:30 pm: Jared Scott leading Basics with Francis Chan (Fellowship Hall)
- ~ Wednesday Night 6:45pm: Steve Hines leading Acts/Epistles (Teller Room)



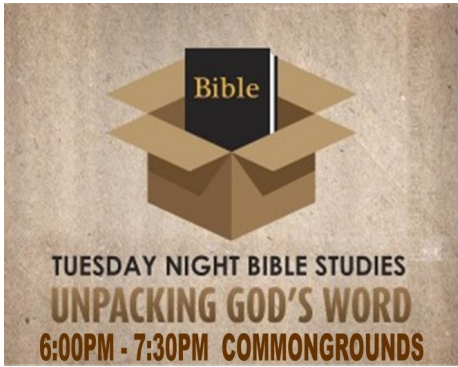
Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org to find out the latest events & activities!

College Ministries



Class: Sunday Morning, 9:45am
Ed. Bldng., 2nd Flr.
Teacher: Kevin & Caitlin Marek
Studying: various books of the Bible

Contact Steve at stephen@matthewroad.org to find out the latest events & activities!



November 2015 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, www.matthewroad.org, or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- November 1st:** Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 6th - 7th:** Preteen Retreat, Mt. Lebanon, see Brittany for info
- November 6th:** College Friday Event, see Stephen for info
- November 13th:** Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center ***Reservations required**
- November 14th:** Ladies Cooking Class, 10:00am, Fellowship Hall
- November 18th:** Special Called Business Meeting, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall
- November 20th - 21st:** Youth Retreat, Mt Lebanon, see Zach or Jonathan for info
- November 21st:** Churchwide Thanksgiving Feast, 5:30pm, Sanctuary
- November 26th - 27th:** Church Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Holiday

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ 20Somethings - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Sanctuary, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm , see Zach for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ AWANA for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ Adult Bible Studies - Library, 6:45pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm
- ◇ 20Somethings Bible Study - Teller Room, 6:45pm

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sundays	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	5:30pm
7:17 Service	6:45pm
Mondays	
K2 Primary Academy	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Tuesdays	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
College Bible Study	6:00pm
Wednesdays	
K2 Primary Academy	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Wednesday Night Dinner	5:15pm
Proclamation (youth choir)	5:45pm
Children's Choir	6:00pm
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Adult Choir	6:30pm
AWANA (children)	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:45pm
20Somethings	6:45pm
Thursdays	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
Fridays	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A	9:00am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am

Average Morning Attendance for October: 352

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for October: 178

Financials as of September 30, 2015

Budget Income	\$660,240
Budget Expense	\$(650,974)
Net Budget	\$9,266