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**Series** - Unprecedented (Part 2 of 2)                      **Date** - 05 April 2020  
**Topic** - Uncommon: Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)      **Speaker** - SP Ben KC Lee

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## WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for *icebreakers* suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)

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## WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

1. One Voice
  2. Glorious One
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## WORD [45 min]

### **Spiritual Objectives**

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. fully embrace our uncommon identity as salt of the earth and light of the world; and
2. actively find ways to serve the people around us in the current climate of fear and uncertainty.

### **Sermon Summary**

The following are the key points of the sermon:

1. Jesus tells us our identity and calls us to be salty and well-lit people in our world; and
2. He places us here to live on a mission, i.e., to reveal Christ by making a difference, to push back darkness and corruption, and brilliantly shine the Gospel.

### **Sermon Recap (Full Summary)**

Every crisis is an open door to reveal God's love. Now more than ever, is our opportunity to reverse the decay and dispel the darkness in these unprecedented times. Two common change agents in the hands of an uncommon and almighty God can transform a fallen world. Jesus and His disciples did exactly that. As salt, our seasoning must be tasted. As light, our radiance must be seen. While people around us are hearing the hysteria of the pandemic news, we are to be sharing the hope of the Good News of Jesus Christ!

### **Principles Of An Uncommon Life**

1. *Our Distinctiveness Makes A Difference (vv 13-15)*

Humanity without Christ is decomposing. Sin corrupts and kills. The world continues to rot and offends a holy God. But Jesus offers one solution – us! Salty and well-lit Christians obstruct the decay and slow the decomposition. A little salt can make a big difference in the taste of food. A little light can change a whole room from dark to bright. The common denominator of salt and light is their distinctiveness. Both carry enormous influence. Both have immediate impact. We are to be salty because the world is bland and corrupt. We are to shine because the world is dark and getting darker. As salt, our calm One in the midst of fear and anxiety will reassure others. As light, the truth we share will lead others out of darkness and despair. We make a difference by being different. What sets us apart from the world is our holiness (John 17:16,18).

### *2. We Are Called To Make A Difference Together (vv 13-15)*

Jesus warned about losing our saltiness and hiding our light. The surest way to lose our influence is by compromise, and thus God's reputation takes a hit. In order not to let anything water down or dilute our impact for the Kingdom, we are to walk in the light and fellowship together (1 John 1:7). We are the flicker of a thousand lights in a city on a hill. The darker the world gets, the brighter we will shine. God has strategically placed us on lamp stands across Singapore and sprinkled us as salt throughout different neighbourhoods for a purpose. This partial lockdown in Singapore is God's sovereign plan for us to make a difference to the lives around us. We are to bring out the God-flavours of this earth and the God-colours of the world to others in this season.

### *3. Our Ultimate Purpose Is To Reveal Christ (vv 16)*

We are given a mission to do good deeds so that God can be found and be glorified. We are to seek Him, to grow in Him, and to serve Him by serving others so that these lost children can find their Father. As light, we make the invisible God visible to those around us. When who we truly are is clearly seen by others, they will seek Him and find Him and glorify Him. They will see God's compassion in the way we serve the needy. They will see His patience in the way we deal with the hungry. They will see His holiness in the way we put sin to death and the way we walk through this world unstained by it. We are God's hands and feet to the hurting world because we are His masterpiece (Ephesians 2:10).

The life Jesus calls us to is an uncommon life. It's Kingdom living. It's a beautiful life we can all aspire to because it brings Him glory. If you're in any way discouraged by your saltlessness or darkness, remember that Jesus has already declared you salt and light. So press on, knowing that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you can obey His charge.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**1. This week is the start of the 'circuit breaker' by our government to prevent local spread of COVID-19. Everyone in Singapore is affected in one way or another. What are your thoughts? Are you able to see any silver lining in the clouds, or a blessing in disguise?**

**2. The purpose of salt in Biblical times was to prevent food from deteriorating. Today we use refrigeration. Are you more like salt – using your uncommon identity to rub on the decaying culture around you? Or are you like refrigeration – keeping your cool in your own box and staying safe in your little corner?**

**3. The Great Commandment calls us to love our neighbour. But who is our 'neighbour'? How might this look like for your cell group in this current climate? What are the immediate and practical things you can do in the 'circuit breaker' month ahead to express God's love to a 'neighbour'?**

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## **WORKS** [10 min]

**Let's continue to pray for the COVID-19 situation:**

1. For the sick and infected, and specifically for people whom you know personally who are infected or quarantined: God to heal and help, sustain bodies and spirits. Contain the spread of infection among clusters.
2. For our vulnerable populations: God to protect our elderly and those suffering from chronic disease.
3. For the young and the strong: God to give them the necessary caution to keep them from unwittingly spreading this disease.
4. For frontline health care workers: God to keep them safe and healthy. Keep their families safe and healthy.
5. For pastors and church leaders faced with the challenges of social distancing: God to help them to creatively imagine how to pastor their congregations.
6. For our cell to be active in community life during this season so that we can spur one another on in our faith and good deeds wherever we are. May the Holy Spirit inspire us to pray, to give, to love, to serve, and to proclaim the Gospel, and that the name of Jesus might be glorified!

**Church Vision**

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

**Mission**

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.