

“BEING SALT & LIGHT”

TEXT: MATTHEW 5: 13 – 16

By Pastor Benny Ho

- **Matthew 5: 13, 14** – “You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world.”

- The first thing we need to note is that the influence of salt and light is not based on what they say or what they do but simply by being who they are.

What Did Jesus Mean by the Salt of the Earth?

- **Luke 14: 34, 35** – “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.”

- Jesus was not thinking about salt used in the kitchen but salt that is used in the field and the manure pile. Therefore, he was talking about salt that is used as fertilizer in the field and disinfectant in the toilet.

What About the Light of
the World?

- God planted us in our office, our school, our campus, our neighbourhood so that our presence as the light of the world will exhibit what is right and expose what is wrong. We point people to the good that is in God and steer people away from evil and wickedness.

- **Philippians 2: 14 – 16** – “Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars as you hold firmly to the word of God.”

3 KEY REQUIREMENTS

1

WE NEED TO BE
THE RIGHT QUALITY



- **2Corinthians 6: 14** - “Do not be unequally yoked...”

- To be “yoked together” means “to come under the same harness” like two oxen ploughing a field. They will end up going the same direction and sharing the same purpose.

- **Psalm 106: 35, 36** – “They mingled with the nations and adopted their customs and they worshipped their idols which became a snare to them...”

- **vs 13** – “If salt has lost its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?”

- The world often lowers the moral standards in order to meet the people. But Jesus was so counterculture that he raised the people to meet the moral standard.

3 KEY REQUIREMENTS

2

WE NEED TO HAVE
THE RIGHT QUANTITY



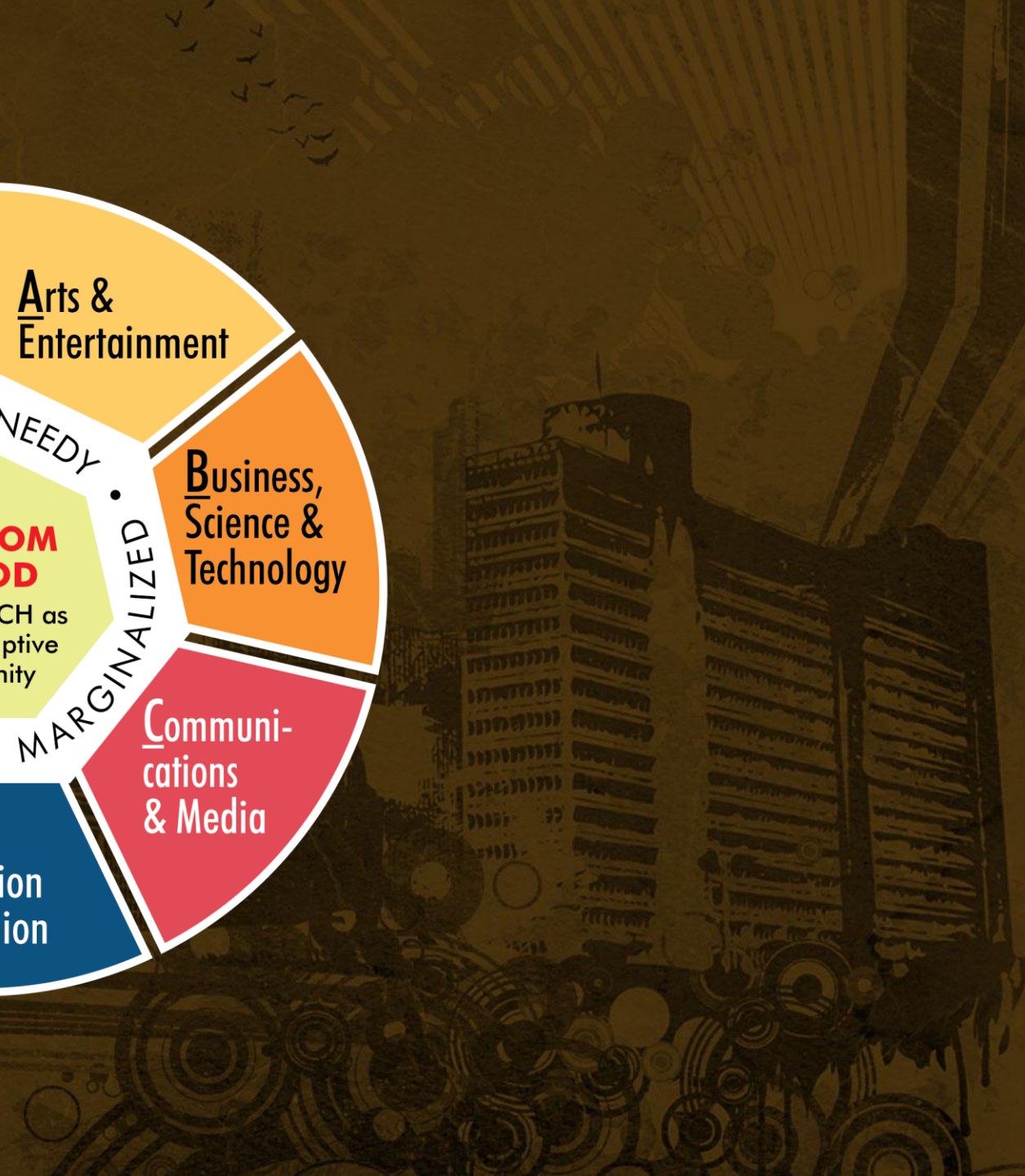
- To be effective salt and light in society, we don't just need the right quality, but we also need the right quantity.

3 KEY REQUIREMENTS

3

WE NEED TO BE IN
THE RIGHT PLACE





- Your work is a platform for you to function as salt and light! Your work takes you to places your pastors can never go. Your work put you in touch with people your pastors can never meet.
- You are there to be that signpost that points people to a better Kingdom and point people to a better King! And His Name is Jesus!

4 POSSIBLE RESPONSES

1. We Flow with the Culture
2. We Fight the Culture
3. We Flee from the Culture
4. We Face the Culture & Fix It!



CULTURE TRENDS WE FACE

1. TRUTH IS A SOCIAL CONSTRUCT
 2. THE QUESTIONS ARE CHANGING
 3. FAITH IS PRIVATIZED
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Faith@
work

Are You a Clear Signpost?

By Pastor Benny Ho
Senior Pastor

Philippians 2: 12–16

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, to will and to act according to his good purpose. ¹⁴ Do everything without complaining, or arguing so that ¹⁵ you may

Philippians 2: 12–16

become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe ¹⁶ as you hold out the word of life – in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour for nothing.



2 KEY TRUTHS

1. We Have A **Purpose** To Achieve

vs 12 *“...work out your salvation with fear and trembling...”*



Ephesians 2: 8-9

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works so that no one can boast.



God's purpose for us is **CHRISTLIKENESS**

- Becoming like Jesus in **character** and **conduct**
- Becoming **who** He wants us to **be**
- Doing **what** He wants us to **do**



Be in the world but not of this world

World	CHRISTIAN
Complains and Finds Fault	Blameless and Pure
In Darkness	Bright Light Shining Like Stars
Empty & Hollow	Hold Out The Word of Life



2 KEY TRUTHS

1. We Have A **Purpose** To Achieve
2. We Have A **Power** To Receive

vs 13 – “For it is GOD who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose...”



2 KEY TRUTHS

1. We Have A **Purpose** To Achieve

To be Christ-like so that we may shine for Christ in a world of darkness!

2. We Have A **Power** To Receive

We do this not by might, nor by power but by the *Spirit*!



Who is a marketplace minister?

He is one who is a **disciple** and **witness** for Christ through his **work** or **business**.



What kind of a **signpost** are you?

Philippians 1: 27

*Whatever happens, **conduct yourselves** in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...*



What kind of a **signpost** are you?

Philippians 1: 27

*Whatever happens, **conduct yourselves** in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...*

“conduct yourselves” = “politeuomai” (Greek)
- to exercise the rights and duties of a citizen



2 Corinthians 3: 2

*You are a letter; written on our hearts,
known and read by everyone...*

Be A Good Signpost

1. Pray Faithfully





Colossians 4: 3, 4

And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

The background is a soft-focus photograph of a white wooden table. On the table, there is a small white pot with a green plant and white flowers, and a book with a grey cover tied with a string. The overall tone is bright and clean.

Be A Good Signpost

1. Pray Faithfully
2. Connect Relationally



Be A Good Signpost

1. Pray Faithfully
2. Connect Relationally
3. Show Love Practically

A background image of a white desk with a small potted plant and a book. The plant has green leaves and small white flowers. The book is open and has some papers on it.

DL Moody

*Out of 100 men, one will read the Bible,
the 99 others will read the Christian.*

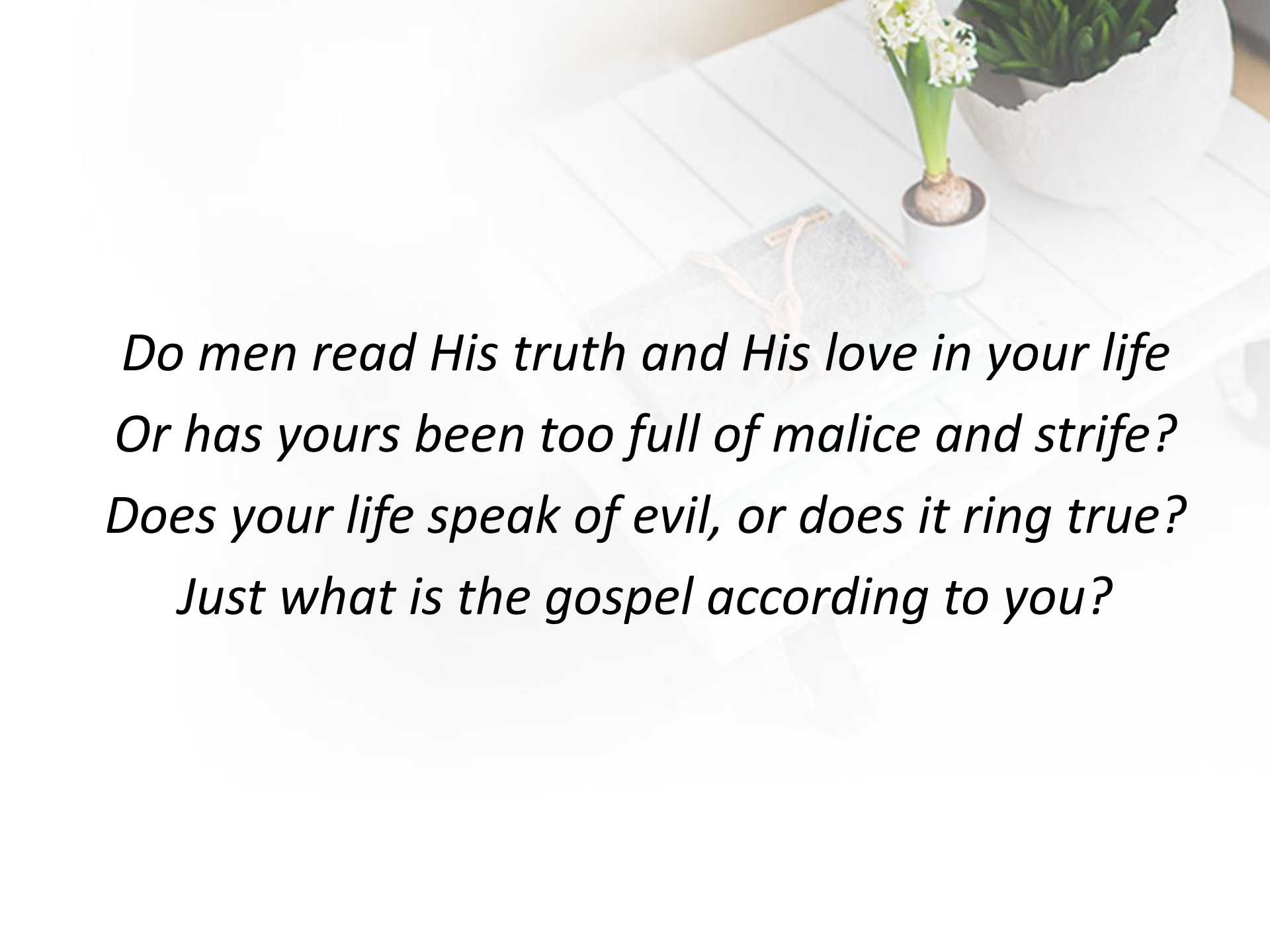
John 13: 34, 35

*A new command I give you: Love on
another. As I have loved you, so you must
love one another. By this all men will know
that you are my disciples, if you love one
another.*

Poem

*The Gospel of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
Are read by more than a few
But the one that is most read and commented on
Is the gospel according to you*

*You are writing a gospel, a chapter a day
By the things you do and the words that you say
Men read what you write, whether faithless or true
But what is the gospel according to you?*



*Do men read His truth and His love in your life
Or has yours been too full of malice and strife?
Does your life speak of evil, or does it ring true?
Just what is the gospel according to you?*



Be A Good Signpost

1. Pray Faithfully
2. Connect Relationally
3. Love Practically
4. Share Boldly



St Francis of Assisi

*“Preach the Gospel at all times and
when necessary use words.”*

Romans 10: 14 – 15

How then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”





Be A Good Signpost

1. Pray Faithfully
2. Connect Relationally
3. Love Practically
4. Share Boldly