



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Biblical Witness	SPEAKER	SP Designate Chua Seng Lee
THEME	Strengthening Foundations	DATE	3 & 4 Sep 2022

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

This week's sermon is the first sermon in a four-part series about strengthening our Biblical foundations for us to gain handles to equip ourselves. This week, SP Designate Chua Seng Lee shared about how we can be a Biblical witness for God by being effective salt and light in today's times where Christian witnesses are needed.

## BIBLICAL WITNESS FOR GOD – SALT AND LIGHT OF THE EARTH

Christianity is about bringing Heaven, the Kingdom of God, here on Earth to man. God wants us to be His witnesses to everyone around us (Acts 1:8). To be a Biblical witnesses for God, we need to:

### 1. Know that we are called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world (*Matt 5:13-14-16*)

When God calls, God qualifies - we are prequalified for God's tasks. God also provides the resources we need.

### 2. Know that we are distinct (*Our being and doing matters*)

- Salt of the Earth (*Matt 5:13*):
  - Salt was a precious commodity in Biblical times and used to preserve and add flavor to food. Salt that loses its flavor is no longer good for anything. As Christians, we need to be in contact with the community and allow the Christlikeness in us to influence the community. We must not allow ourselves to be corrupted or compromised and lose our saltiness (distinctiveness). Otherwise, we will become useless for the Kingdom of God and ineffective in the community we are in.
- Light of the World (*Matt 5:14-16*):
  - Every believer must become the light of God. We demonstrate the light of God through good works such that the outcomes glorify God.

Salt and light are interrelated. Being the salt of the earth and light of the world is about living out Christlikeness in our values, words and actions (salt) and bringing God's light through good works in the community out of God's love (light). It is about living out the Beatitudes (*Matt 5:3-12*) in our values, words and actions, regardless of how society responds to us.

### 3. Know that we are dependent on the Holy Spirit - *we cannot operate apart from the Holy Spirit*

In today's times, we face challenging and grey situations/issues around us. We need the Holy Spirit before we can be effective witnesses (*Acts 1:8*). We cannot give standard advice to all situations or simplistic answers to grey situations. Similar to how the disciples in Acts gathered and prayed until the Holy Spirit came instead of rushing to be witnesses, we need to set up our own prayer altars to seek the Lord for wisdom until we receive a breakthrough in our situations. When we seek the Lord in prayer individually and communally, He will provide us with unique solutions for our unique situations.

## CONCLUSION

We will face different situations and challenges in life but the three principles hold true for us to be effective witnesses for God. We are called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. We need to know that we are distinct and our work and being matters! Most importantly, we must be dependent on the Holy Spirit. It is only then that we can become effective salt and light for God, glorifying Him wherever He sends us.

# QUESTIONS

1. In your own words, what does being a Biblical witness for God mean to you? Why must we be one?

2. What are some specific changes you can make to live out God's call to be salt of the earth (i.e. reflect Christlikeness in your values, words and actions) in the current roles in your life? Surrender them to God in prayer.

3. Reflect on the relationships you have with others. How can you be God's light in the life of someone you know?