

**August 28, 2016**

**Series: Connect**

**Sermon Title: *Made to Matter***

**Key Verse:**

**Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV)**

**<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.**

**The Key:**

**Different to make a difference**

**S. - SERVE a purpose**

**Matthew 5:13a (NRSV) <sup>13a</sup>“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?**

**Esther 4:14 (NRSV) <sup>14</sup>For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.”**

**A. - ADD value to others**

**Matthew 5:13b (NRSV) <sup>13b</sup>It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.**

**Colossians 4:6 (NRSV) <sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.**

**1 Peter 4:8-10 (NRSV) <sup>8</sup>Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Be hospitable to one another without**

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is  
to ENGAGE people through relational ministry,  
to EQUIP disciples for Christ and  
to EMPLOY their gifts through missions.

The Vision of Clearbranch UMC is Transformed Lives offering the Transforming Love of Christ.

complaining. <sup>10</sup>Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

**L. - LIGHT the darkness**

Genesis 1:3-4 (NRSV) <sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

Psalms 119:105 (NRSV) <sup>105</sup>Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

John 8:12 (NRSV) <sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

Matthew 5:14 (NRSV) <sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

**T. - TRIM your wick**

Matthew 5:15-16 (NRSV) <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

John 9:5-6 (NRSV) <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes

Philippians 2:15 (NRSV) <sup>15</sup>so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.

**Challenge Questions:**

**How will your life make a "salty" difference this week?**

**What will you do to add value to other's lives this week?**

**How can you allow the light of Christ burn more vividly in your life this week?**

**What one missions experience will you sign up for today**

**\_\_\_\_\_?**

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is  
to ENGAGE people through relational ministry,  
to EQUIP disciples for Christ and  
to EMPLOY their gifts through missions.