**Sunday, May 27, 2012**

**Welcome** – Greg Snow

**Praise the Lord –**-*Psalm 111*

***Praise the Lord! Let us give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart, together as one body and voice, let us worship God!***

***Great are the works of the Lord. We remember and delight in the amazing things He has done!***

***He is full of splendor and majesty and His righteousness endures forever. He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful. The works of His hands are faithful and just; He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.***

***Holy and awesome is His name! He is worthy of praise and honor!***

**Song of Praise** – *Doxology*

**How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place** - *Psalm 84:1-2, 10/Charles Spurgeon*

*How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!*

*My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;*

*My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.*

*For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.*

If Jehovah be our God, his house, his altars, his doorstep, all become precious to us. We know by experience that where Jesus is within, the outside of the house is better than the noblest chambers where the Son of God is not to be found.

**Song of Worship** – *Better Is One Day*

**In His Presence** – *Psalm 51:11*

What an incredible place to be…in the dwelling place of Jehovah!

Hear the words of King David in Psalm 51:11

*Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.*

David knew that in the presence of God there would be a dwelling of peace.

Staying in God’s presence required trusting Him regardless of the storm.

Christ is calling you to be holy, pure, and right.

Will you trust Him and not worry? Will you pray about everything in your life?

Will you meditate on the Word of God?

And finally, will you practice, will you do, what God calls you to do?

Only then, can you honestly say, “It is well with my soul.”

**Song of Worship** – *It Is Well With My Soul*

**Search Me, O God –** *Psalm 115:1; 139:23-24*

*Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,*

*For the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!*

*Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!*

*And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!*

**Song of Worship** – *O Great God*

**Offering (Quote: *Depend on it, my hearer, you never will go to heaven unless you are prepared to worship Jesus Christ as God.”* Charles H. Spurgeon**

**You Are the Salt and the Light *–****Matthew 5:13-16*

Hear the word of our Lord…

*“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.”*

*“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*

Please stand with me as we sing of our Redeemer, the light of the world!

**Songs of Worship –** *I Will Sing Of My Redeemer/Near the Cross*

**Message** – *“The Salt & Light”*   
 *Scripture Reference: Matthew 5:13-16*

* We live in a dark and corrupted world. (2 Timothy 3:13; John 3:19)
* All of our human advances & achievements have only lead us to new ways of evil.
* Original sin is the cause for all of man’s plight; we are born into darkness & sin.

1. **Point** 
   * As new born citizens of the Kingdom of God, we are His ambassadors & representatives to a lost and dying world. The Beatitudes are the way in & the way of the Kingdom. These attitudes are now a part of our new nature, resulting in us being the salt & light to a lost world.

2. **Plan**

* The word “you” in Matthew 5;13-14 is plural; “you” speaks of collective influence.
* The word “are” stresses “being” rather than “doing.”
* Salt can speak of purity, flavor, sting, thirst, etc but the primary characteristic in verse 13 refers to the preservation of a dying & rotten world in sin.
* Salt & light both flow from a new heart but salt is more hidden & light is more outward. Salt retards corruption, negatively speaking, & light reveals falsehoods & wrong sin but also points to righteousness & truth, which is in Christ our Lord.

3. **Problem**

* We cannot lose our salvation if we are His but we can lose value & effectiveness for His Kingdoms work. We can become tasteless because of contamination, caused by sin. **Our light can be hidden by sin.**

4. **Purpose**

* The purpose of everything is to bring glory to God. Man will see His good work in you and glorify God who is doing this work in you. *And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Phillipians 1:6*

**Takeaways**

* We all talk a better game than we can play.
* Our influence is felt & seen both individually & corporately.
* No man is an island to himself. His influence is seen & felt by others. What man does or doesn’t do affects his attitudes & actions.
* The teaching of these verses (Matthew 5:13-14) shuts the door to the idea that Christianity is an individual sport. We are in this together!
* It matters what we do, what we say, where we go, etc! (Ephesians 5:1-21)

**Time of Prayer**