



# OUTRAGEOUS

a call to radical living from the mouth of Jesus himself

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## WEEK 1 - The Beatitudes/Salt & Light

### OVERVIEW

Throughout Jesus' sermon on the mount, he upends many commonly held assumptions about godly living. Never more so than in the so-called "beatitudes" (declarations of blessing) in which he describes the poor, mourners, the meek, those facing injustice, the persecuted, etc. as the ones who God blesses most. Those downtrodden and forgotten people, according to Jesus, are the ones who season and preserve humanity and who shine God's light into the dark corners of the world. It is NOT, as one might expect, those who are powerful, strong, and influential in the world.

*You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world...*

Matthew 5:13-14

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think God didn't use those who are powerful, strong and influential in the world as examples of those He blesses most?
2. What does it mean to be blessed?
3. This shocking teaching is an invitation for introspection. To what kind of kingdom are you subject? One of earthly power and influence? Or one of lowly humility?
4. Read Matthew 5:11-16. Consider the world behind the text. What was salt used for in the ancient world? What did light mean to people living at that time? How does this consideration affect your understanding of what Jesus means when he calls his followers "salt of the earth" and "light of the world"?
5. How are you shining God's light? With dominance and might? Or with patient endurance?
6. Do you ever feel not qualified to be considered "salt and light" for Jesus? If so, in what ways?
7. Consider the people you will encounter this week. What might it look like to begin practicing patient endurance? Share one example of something you could put into practice beginning this week.

### RESOURCES

[gracechurch.us/grow](http://gracechurch.us/grow)

