This Way to Happiness: What to do Until the King Comes

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I. Introduction.
   A. Text: Matthew 5:15-16.
   B. A person can be salt and light wherever he or she is at.
   C. There are insights into being salt and light in the world.

II. Insight into salvation.
   A. We were not always saved.
   B. When Jesus comes into the life, we are changed. This is a miracle. (Ephesians 5:8)
   C. Clay becomes salt and dark becomes light at conversion.
   D. Jesus is explaining what we already are. He is not exhorting us to be something else. We are taking the place of Jesus in this world. (John 9:5)

III. Insight into the way we are living.
   A. The world is characterized by decay and darkness. (Luke 17)
   B. We ought to pay attention to the Word of God because it is the only light shining in the world. (2 Peter 1:19)

IV. Insight into our ministry.
   A. We should be salt and light to the world until Jesus returns.
   B. Salt hinders corruption.
   C. Salt seasons.
   D. Salt stings. Pain has to come before there is healing.
   E. Salt makes people thirsty.
   F. Character produces conduct and a positive witness.
   G. Salt and light exist to be spent.

V. Insight into the dangers we must avoid.
   A. Salt can lose its flavor.
      1. The world needs the salt, so we must not be isolated.
2. Our motive though must be to glorify God otherwise we will be contaminated by the world.

B. Light can be hidden.

1. If we stop doing good works then our light will stop shining.

2. It is too easy for us to hide the light.

**Application questions:**

1. Why is it important to recognize the true nature of the world?

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2. What does salt picture for ministry? How does this picture bring light to your own ministry?

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3. What good works can you do or maximize in order to be a light to the world? Explain.

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