

EPISODE: 428

TITLE: **Being Salt and Light in Our Divided Culture**

Clearly, we live in an extremely and increasingly divided culture. So do we retreat, or engage this cultural divide with a person-to-person and systemic response? Can we, as Jesus said, begin to live as both SALT and LIGHT in this increasingly divided culture we find ourselves in?

Here are three key things to believe and consider about living as salt and light today...

1. **Be an advocate for the underdog.** Hanging out with or defending broken, messy people—or those that have very different opinions than us—can be hard to do. Or hard to want to do. When you stick up for those on the “wrong side of the tracks” or the wrong side of an issue, you’re actually showing love to Jesus. *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”* Jesus did not say to live this way only when we are in agreement with that person.
2. **Err on the side of grace.** When we have truly grasped the good news and grace that the gospel offers us, it will move our hearts to be gracious with others... gracious with those that are hard to be with or those that we flat-out disagree with. How long did you live your life in disagreement with or in a divided way from God, certain that you were “right” and that the world (or God) owed you something? Jesus came and took that “un-rightness” upon himself and exchanged his perfectly righteous life for ours on the cross. Showing grace to others extends the glory of God into lives that are filled with darkness and division.
3. **Keep an open door and open mind.** We are living our lives more isolated than ever. Because of technology, but also because of fear. God is great so we don’t have to be in control of everything. God is glorious so we don’t have to fear others and their opinions. Pick a night each week and have someone who is different than you over for a meal. Or someone you are just getting to know. Open up your schedule, your home, your hearts to BE with people. Let’s start by closing the cultural divide that may exist between the guy living right next store to us!

If you’d like to learn more about coaching and mentorship with Caesar and his wife, Tina, to learn to live a lifestyle of discipleship and mission, new cohorts are beginning soon. Start experiencing greater spiritual freedom and relational peace today!

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Thanks for listening... we’ll see you in the next episode!

~Caesar