

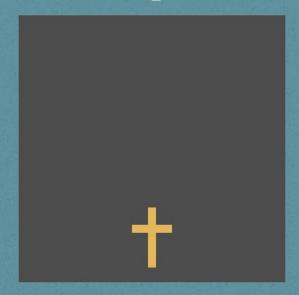
salt light The greatest danger to the church in Asia today is the privitisation of faith.

What should we do as Christians when the world has gone crazy?

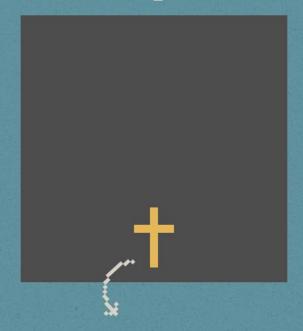
A. Escape

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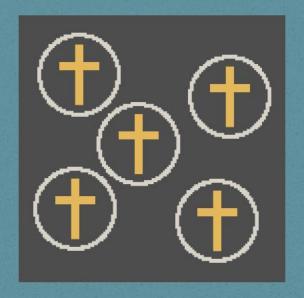


B. Insulate

B. Insulate



B. Insulate



C. Control

C. Control

B. Conform

D. Conform A. Escape C. Control B. Insulate

"Any community of Jesus which wants to be invisible or dominant is no longer a community that follows Him."

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Two essential rhythms to human flourishing

work rest

Genesis 1:27-28

²⁷ So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Matthew 5:13-16

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.
¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Just as salt that only exists in a salt shaker is useless, so is a Christian that only exists in the church. If salt is about enhancing flavour, could it be that one of the reasons the world is hurting so much right now is not because evil abounds but Christians don't?

When the church goes silent, all people are left with is the tastelessness of the world.

When we Christians keep our faith private, we contribute to the decay of the world.

Matthew 5:13-16

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"Both metaphors of salt and light raise important challenges about Christian involvement in society. We are not called to control secular power structures; neither are we promised that we can Christianise the legislation and values of the world.

"Instead, we must remain active preservative agents, indeed irritants, in calling and revealing to the world God's heart of love."

— Craig Blomberg

Matthew 5:3-12

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."