

The Gift of Flavor



In a sea of sand

- How are we individuals?
- How do we see our purpose?
- How do we know we matter?



The answer is in the Body of Christ

- The local church



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- This collection of believers here in this place



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- God intends for this to be a place where each of us matters



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- Alike and yet different



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- Rowdy Sheep



Mark 9

- Transfiguration
 - Peter, James and John see firsthand the Glory of God revealed in Jesus



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 - Peter, James and John see firsthand the Glory of God revealed in Jesus
- Jesus heals demon-possessed boy
- Jesus withdraws to Capernaum with Disciples so He can continue to teach them
 - He reveals He will suffer and die, then rise from dead



And their response?

- The Disciples argue about who is greatest
 - Who among the Disciples...



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 - And so He tells them they must be servants



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 - Who among the Disciples...
 - And so He tells them they must be servants
 - Welcoming a little child is as welcoming Jesus
- And so they try to shift the blame
 - Someone else is “using Your name...”
 - And so He tells them whoever isn’t against them is for them...



A cup of cold water

- If someone gives you a cup of cold water because you belong to Jesus, they will be rewarded
 - You don't deserve it on your own
 - Their reward is because they blessed you because of wanting to bless Him



Causing a little one or a “least of these” to sin...

- Better for a millstone to be placed on their neck and thrown into sea



Causing a little one or a “least of these” to sin...

- Better for a millstone to be placed on their neck and thrown into sea
 - In reference to this observation, Jesus goes on to say to cut off hand or foot if it is causing sin



Then the real meat...

“For everyone will be tested with fire.

Salt is good for seasoning. But if it loses its flavor, how do you make it salty again?

You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other.”



Break it down

- Everyone is tested with fire



Break it down

- Everyone is tested with fire
 - Desire to be worshipped instead of to serve



Break it down

- Everyone is tested with fire
 - Desire to be worshipped instead of to serve
 - Desire to be exclusive rather than inclusive



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Break it down

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 - Desire to be worshipped instead of to serve
 - Desire to be exclusive rather than inclusive
 - Desire to think you are special instead of Jesus
 - Desire to place your need to be important or comfortable ahead of the need of little ones or least ones to learn or be protected or loved



This is our testing

- Do we sin by grabbing with our hands and saying “No, this is mine!”



This is our testing

- Do we sin by grabbing with our hands and saying “No, this is mine!”
- Do we sin with our foot by stomping it and demanding what we want?



This is our testing

- Do we sin by grabbing with our hands and saying “No, this is mine!”
- Do we sin with our foot by stomping it and demanding what we want?
- Do we sin with our eyes and judge what we see?



Salt

- Salt is good for seasoning



Salt

- Salt is good for seasoning
 - “salt is a symbol of lasting concord, because it protects food from putrefaction and preserves it unchanged. Accordingly, in the solemn ratification of compacts, the orientals (culturally) were, and are to this day, accustomed to partake of salt together.”
 - Strong’s Concordance



Salt

- Preserves and protects



Salt

- Preserves and protects
- Prevents decay and rot



Salt

- Preserves and protects
- Prevents decay and rot
- Sign of lasting agreement and commitment



If “saltiness is lost”

- It is forever changed



If “saltiness is lost”

- It is forever changed
- It is no longer what it was intended to be



Salt in the Body of Christ

“You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other.”



Salt in the Body of Christ

“You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other.”

- Period, Paragraph, New Page



Salt in the Body of Christ

“You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other.”

- Period, Paragraph, New Page
- Chapter 10 starts with Jesus moving on



The Qualities of salt

- Preserves and protects



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The Qualities of salt

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The Qualities of salt

- Preserves and protects
- Prevents decay and rot
- Sign of lasting agreement and commitment
- Live at peace among each other



And the world will know...

- If we do this, according to John 13, then the world will know we belong to Jesus



And the world will know...

- If we do this, according to John 13, then the world will know we belong to Jesus
- If we do this, according to Mark 9, then we avoid destruction here on earth and the dangers of hell in eternity



And the world will know...

- If we do this, according to John 13, then the world will know we belong to Jesus
- If we do this, according to Mark 9, then we avoid destruction here on earth and the dangers of hell in eternity
- If we do this, we please Jesus



So, how do we do it?

- That's the \$64,000 question!



So, how do we do it?

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- That's more than we can tackle this morning



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- But it's something that we start to embrace



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- That's more than we can tackle this morning
- But it's something that we start to embrace
- It's something we **HAVE** to get great at
- All being salt together
 - Big chunks, fine grind, sea, cave, etc.
 - Full of flavor

