

The What & Why of #forSalem  
Matthew 5:13-26

In your words, what is for Salem?

Why do we feel it's so important?

### **What and Why for Salem?**

In a group of people and someone brings up Xians or church someone is going to feel awkward.

### **The Church is usually known for what it's against...**

Fair or not... how a lot of our neighbors see the Church and Xians.

Makes people think... church is for church people.

To belong you have to be against all these things too.

### **God is for way more than what he is against.**

### **God is for you so we are for you**

### **GOD Matthew 5:13-16**

*"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.*

*"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

### **The Church exists to make people's lives better by illuminating and radiating God's love.**

Satisfaction. Following Jesus brings ultimate satisfaction Freedom/Relationship/Hope/Full rich life... better at life. Show that God loves you, is for you, and that you can have true life through Him.

In summary, For Salem is... and we are doing it because...

### **How?**

### **Together**

### **People need to know they matter to us before they can be open to hearing they matter to God.**

**Jesus is for people before they are for him.** Romans 5:8? 1 John 4:19?

**The Church is not for church people. The church is for the world.** John 3:17?

How can the church be for people right now during COVID-19?

### **Individual**

**What you do is evidence of who you are.**

**A child of God can't help but look, sound, and act like their Heavenly Father.**

Does one grain of salt season an entire steak or cucumber?... takes thousands.

Does one flashlight light up a whole city?- Takes thousands.

If God is FOR our city... will it take only one person? Or will it take a group?

Crosscreek was created on purpose for a purpose... to lead people into a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ... by creating a church **FOR** people who don't normally go to church.

### Discussion Questions

1. In your words how would you define the idea of #forSalem?
2. How would you finish this sentence... "The Church exists to\_\_\_\_\_." How do you feel your definition fits or doesn't fit with the idea of #forSalem?
3. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. How do you think this passage relates to the mission/vision/idea of #forSalem and how it relates to you?
4. What are some ideas you have about how you, your family, your group, and/or your church could be FOR your neighbors/community in the coming future?