

**Yeast, Salt, and Light:**  
A Recipe for a Moving, Meaningful, and Mission-Focused  
Stewardship Ministry



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**Focus Scriptures**

The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.

Matthew 13:3, NRSV

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**Focus Scriptures**

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.

Matthew 5:13, NRSV

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### Focus Scriptures

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16, NRSV



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This is a yeast, salt, and light moment for the church.



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technical change vs. adaptive change



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What might yeast, salt, and light have to do with stewardship ministry?



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Mission      Meaning      Movement



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**Yeast: Start With Mission**

Your church's mission is your grounding center. Create it by **exploring** what it does best.



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**Yeast: Start With Mission**

- What energizes us?
- What do we do better than anyone else?
- What resources do we need/have to do this?



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**Yeast: Start With Mission**

Keep your mission simple and memorable.



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**Yeast: Start With Mission**

Infuse your mission and your stewardship ministry into all of your congregational life.



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**Yeast: Start With Mission**

Adaptive Stewardship Question

**Are you doing “stewardship ministry” or are you nurturing generous stewards?**



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**Salt: Add Meaning**

Your church’s unique calling is what gives your stewardship ministry its meaning. Create it by **experimenting** to find ways to make your stewardship ministry palatable, flavorful, and enjoyable.



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**Salt: Add Meaning**

**Understand Your Culture & Context**

- Denominational
- Demographic
- Congregational



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**Salt: Add Meaning**

Mix Mission + Culture + Context to get meaningful best practices

- What is essential/must not change/is truly sacred?
- What is expendable/can be discarded?
- What is adaptable?



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**Salt: Add Meaning**

Mix Mission + Culture + Context to get meaningful best practices

- Stay away from stale
- A starting place to apply adaptive challenge experiments to technical challenges
- A bridge to introduce the congregation and leadership to deeper issues



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**Salt: Add Meaning**

Adaptive Stewardship Question

**Are our practices meaningful because they are comfortable or because they are making a difference?**



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**Light: Season With Movement**

Find your fulfillment by making sure your faithful, generous church is moving beyond the walls of its meeting place by **evaluating**.



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**Light: Season with Movement**

**Include a Plan of Evaluation**

- Observe
- Interpret
- Implement/Intervene (with your mission in mind)



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**Light: Season With Movement**

Keep your ministry relevant

- Your witness: how you get noticed
- Inside and outside the walls where your congregation meets
- Keep up with changes in culture and context



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**Light: Season With Movement**

Adaptive Stewardship Question

**Are people from inside and outside the congregation involved in our evaluation?**



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**Leadership Roles**

A healthy exchange between clergy & lay leadership



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**Clergy**

Stewardship as Discipleship

- Freedom to teach/preach
- Assurance that it's not just about clergy salaries
- Access to information that is a matter of pastoral care



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### Lay Leadership

#### Stewardship Champions

- Tell stewardship stories
- Cultivate an attitude of gratitude
- People using appropriate gifts and skills (those who manage and those who inspire)



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### Review

#### Yeast

- Mission
- Infused
- Core Values
- Essentials



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### Review

#### Salt

- Meaningful
- Flavorful
- Strategies/Practices
- Experimentation/Expendables



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**Review**

**Light**

- Moving
- Noticeable
- Relevant
- Exchange of an internal & external learning community



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**Other Questions/Comments**



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