

Activity: Be Like Salt

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Teaching Goal: You are the salt of the earth

Scripture: Mark 9:50 Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.

Matthew 5:13 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is not longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

Materials:

- 3 glasses
- 1 carton of buttermilk
- 2 spoons for mixing
- salt
- 1 clean iron block
- 1 sponge
- small amount of dirt

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and Discussion

☺ Words that are written in **bold** are when you, the parent, are speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. **Seasonings are used to make food taste better. If a seasoning doesn't have flavor, it is useless. Jesus tells us to be like salt. When you put salt on food, its flavor is noticeable. We are to be noticed in the world by obeying Jesus and making the world "taste" better. If we act like everybody else, our "flavor" is gone.**

To help you understand what it means to be the salt of the world, we are going to do an activity representing four different kinds of people. This activity shows what kind of effect each type of person has on the people around them. Which one are you?

B. **ACTIVITY:** *Fill each of the three glasses with buttermilk. Pick up one glass and drop the iron block into the buttermilk. The iron block represents the first type of person. I need a volunteer to taste the buttermilk to see if the iron block changes the milk in any way. Hand glass to volunteer and allow them to take a sip. Ask the volunteer; Does the buttermilk taste any different than normal? Listen to answer: No. The iron block only takes up space. It doesn't make the milk taste any different. What kind of person is this? Listen to answer: a person who blends in or acts like everybody else, they don't give anything to others.*

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Remove the iron block from the glass. Drop the sponge in. This sponge represents another type of person. Look into the glass. What's happening to the milk? Listen to answers: there's less milk, the sponge is "drinking" the milk. Yes, the sponge is absorbing the milk. What kind of person is this? Listen to answers: a person who takes from others, selfish. The sponge doesn't do anything to make the milk better, it only takes away.

Set aside the glass with the sponge and pick up a new glass of buttermilk. Pour the dirt into the glass. Stir. I just put some dirt into the glass. Anyone want to take a drink? Listen to everyone say, NO! The dirt ruins the milk making it useless. What kind of person does the dirt represent? Listen to answers: They do bad things to others.

Set aside the muddy milk, picking up the final glass. Add salt to the glass. Stir. Remember Jesus told us to be the salt of the world? I put salt into the buttermilk. Have the taster from the iron block taste the salty milk. How does this taste compared with the first glass? Listen to answer: Good, better etc. The salt adds flavor to the buttermilk, making it taste better than before. God adds us to the world to make it better. What kind of person are you? An iron block? Sponge? Dirt? Salt?

V. Memorize

**Being God's salty spice
Makes the world nice**

VI. Close in Prayer