

Come Follow Me

NEW TESTAMENT 2019

SALT OF THE EARTH OBJECT LESSON

Matthew 5; Luke 6

In Matthew 5:13, Christ tells his disciples that they are the “salt of the earth.” As mentioned in *Come, Follow Me—For Individuals and Families*, salt has many purposes like preservation, flavoring, and purification. Salt was even involved in the practice of animal sacrifice. Christ says it is the “savor” that makes it valuable, and when that is lost, the salt is useless. We can be considered the “salt of the earth” as we use our influence for good and share the gospel with others. Here is a fun object lesson to understand the importance of our role as the “salt of the earth:”

Credit for this idea goes to Michael Kientz on his Teach Them blog.

Materials: two raw eggs, two clear jars or glasses, salt, water, spoon

1. Fill both of the jars $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water.
2. Ask the kids if an egg will float or sink if you place it in water. Let one kid carefully place an egg in one jar. It will sink.
3. Explain that the water represents the sinfulness of the world. We, as disciples of Christ, are the egg. Sins of the world can pull us down and cause us to become lost.
4. Explain that Christ has called us to be the salt of the earth. Have one of the kids read Matthew 5:13. Talk about the different uses of salt (preservation, flavoring, and purification). Then discuss what it means for us to be the salt of the earth (doing good, sharing the gospel, helping others, etc).
5. Ask one of the kids to pour salt into the other jar and stir it in **very thoroughly** with the spoon (add three tablespoons of salt for every cup of water).
6. Explain that as we add our “salt” or goodness to the world, we will be lifted up and others will notice and want to be lifted up as well. We can be in the world but not of the world.
7. Have one of the kids gently place the other egg in the salty water. It should float near the top if there’s enough salt in the water.

*You may want to experiment beforehand to see exactly how much salt is needed to float the egg.