



Pass the Salt Tim Ross

Focus Jesus consistently vetted His followers to see who would follow Him even when they were tested. Followers of Jesus must take up their crosses daily and follow Him. Jesus boldly told His disciples they would have to follow Him at all costs, and they would have to hate others in comparison to their love for Him.

Fun If you got stuck on an elevator and could only listen to one song, what would it be?

Review Key Scriptures: Luke 14:25–35

1. Salt seasons.

Salt is used for flavor. When Jesus told His disciples they were the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13), He was urging them to share the gospel and bring some flavor and life to this world. Just as salt seasons, Christ followers should realize their ability to make things better because of the presence of Jesus they bring to every situation. Being the salt of the earth means bringing love, peace, and unity everywhere we go. Jesus wants us to sprinkle the earth with what He has put in us.

2. Salt preserves.

Food preservation requires a lot of salt, and during the process, bacteria is removed. We need to preserve our values with God's Word and presence. People may be attracted to us because of the salt we are sprinkling, but we cannot let the world's values sway our own. Instead, we need to preserve our values by being grounded in God's Word. Know when to sprinkle salt and when to use more to preserve yourself.

3. Salt kills.

Salt is useful for many things, but salt also kills. The salt of God's truth must be used correctly. The Bible says we should tell unbelievers the *Good News* that Jesus loves them and they can be saved through faith in Him. But we often tell good news to believers and bad news to unbelievers. Believers should know they must take up their crosses and follow Jesus. And instead of dumping salt on unbelievers, sprinkle it by telling them the gospel message that Jesus loves them and came to save them from their sins.

Group Dynamics Idea Gateway's vision is to see people saved, healed, set free, disciplined, equipped, empowered, and serving. As the group leader, you are able to help people begin serving in the group. Take time to learn what your group members' gifts are and what they enjoy doing, and determine areas where their gifts might be helpful.

Discuss

1. What did Pastor Tim Ross mean when he said we should make the world taste better? How does that relate to discipleship?
2. What does it mean to sprinkle salt on those around you?
3. What are some examples of bringing salt into our conversations?
4. Can you think of a time the Holy Spirit prompted you to sprinkle God's love and encouragement on someone? Share your experience.
5. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Salt seasons.
- Salt preserves.
- Salt kills.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word and what You are doing in our hearts. Let Your Word go deep in our hearts and bear fruit. As followers of Jesus, let us be salt in the earth, preserve the truth of Scripture, and kill every selfish motive we have. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Continually look for ways to grow as a leader. What are the top three things you admire in a leader? With the help of a trusted friend, mentor, or pastor, write down an action plan to help you integrate these leadership skills into your life and leadership practices.