

BEING SALT

Sermon on the Mount | Family Devotion | Week 2

The Passage

Matthew 5:13-16

Questions

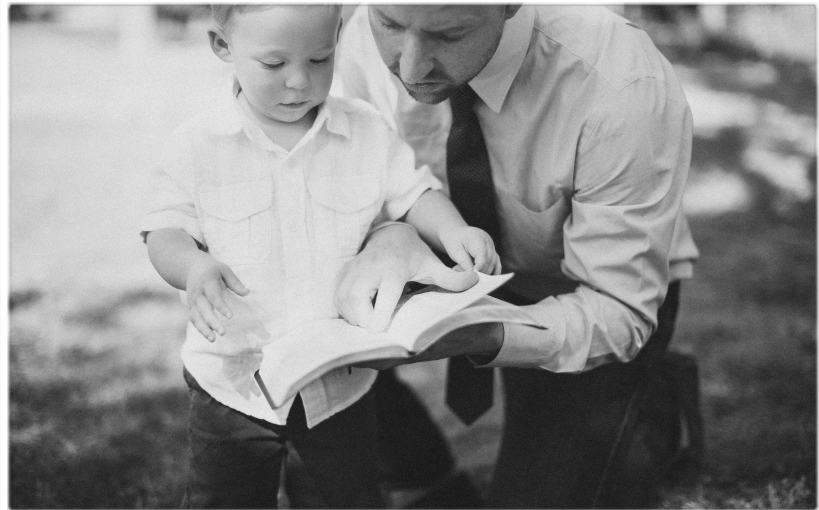
How many different things can you name that contain salt (foods, uses, etc)?

What else does Jesus say about salt in Matthew 5?

What are some ways that our family can make an impact for the kingdom this week?

Prayer

God... we love you so much. Thank you for everything you have given us and for calling us to follow you. We want to be salt; we want to be a part of changing this world. But we need your help. Show us how we can be a part of what you are doing in the world around us.



The Story

The ocean can be such a fun place. Particularly at this time of year, dreams of a nice beach and warm water can be all that keeps us going. But have you ever made the mistake of breathing in that salt water? Maybe a wave tipped you over or some spray caught you just right but whatever the case, you were left with that unmistakable taste and pain. There is no denying the power of salt. In Matthew 5, Jesus was giving his first recorded sermon, a talk we call the “Sermon on the Mount.” As he spoke, Jesus began to show those around him how the kingdom of God could change their world. By following Him, even the poorest and most desperate among them could be a part of something brand new and set apart. “You are the salt of the earth,” Jesus told them. Salt, in his day, was more than the ocean or a seasoning. It was an important resource. In fact before refrigerators and freezers, salt was the only thing that could keep food from going bad. In other words, salt was the difference between eating and going hungry for a lot of people. Now why would Jesus call us salt? Because salt is unmistakable. Even if you can’t see it, one taste leaves little doubt about its presence. Your calling, and mine, is to be just like salt... a distinct and active difference in the world. God is at work in our world and he has called us to follow his lead. By his mercy, he has chosen you and me to show that work to the world. Like salt, God wants us to leave an unmistakable impact for his kingdom.