Called To Be Salt Kidzone Lesson Sun Am 1/15/23

# Memory Verse: Matthew 5:13 NKJV

# 13“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

Target Thought: We are called to be salt.

Everyone knows what salt is, right? (Hold up the salt shaker.) We use it everyday to make our food taste better. Imagine eating a hamburger and French fries without salt. It wouldn’t have much flavor, would it?

But salt has more uses than just making our food taste better. It’s used to make over 14,000 different products, some of which we use every single day.

* Salt is used in setting the dye in fabrics. Without salt, the bright colors that we wear today would quickly wash out of our clothes, making them dull and less vibrant. (Pass around the shirt.)
* Salt is also used in leather making. Without salt, we would not have many of the leather products that we use every day -- like this belt. (Pass around the belt.)
* Salt is used to make plastic. Without salt, we might not have many of the plastic toys that we play with. (Pass around the toy.)

People have known about the usefulness of salt for many years. A grain of salt may be small, but it’s very valuable. At one time, salt was so important that people were paid with salt instead of money. Can you imagine? What if people were paid in salt today?

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to be salt and the "have salt in ourselves!" He wants us to be out in the world making people's lives better and more flavorful and more exciting by bringing Jesus to them!

We can be just like salt and make people's lives better and tastier by introducing them to Jesus and telling them all we know about him and all the wonderful things that happen in our lives because of Jesus. People should be able to tell that we are Christians by the way we live and by the way we act.

But Jesus doesn't only want US to be salt, HE wants to be the salt in OUR lives...just like the cracker with salt tastes better than one without salt, OUR lives are better, more exciting, more flavorful when we let Jesus into our lives. When we go to church and Sunday School, and invite our friends to come, when we talk about Jesus and talk to him and pray, when we read the Bible, when we do the things he ask us to do, we are letting Jesus"salt us" with his Holy Spirit. Having Jesus salt us with his Holy Spirit is like having salt on our food, our lives are just so much better with Jesus' spirit than without it.

Oh, you can be a plain old saltless cracker in the world, like people who don't know Jesus -- you'll be living out in the world and maybe even doing ok, but your life can be so much more if you let Jesus into your life, to salt you up with his spirit and make your life more flavorful, more tasty, more complete.

Let's say a prayer: "Dear Jesus...thank you for being like salt on crackers for us, you make our lives better and happier because you are in our lives. Help us to be salt for you and bring your joy and happiness and flavor to other people by telling them about you!"

1. How can we be salt?
2. How should people know that we are Christians?
3. What makes our lives so much better now?