



LARGE GROUP TIME SERIES

WEEK 3: "PASS THE SALT – AGAIN"

Ready?

- You'll need your SALT posters from last week for this lesson, as it includes review of the [Pass the SALT](#) method. (If you have a big Large Group Time group and/or room, you may want to have two sets of posters on hand so everyone can see clearly – especially if you have visiting parents in the room this week.)
- Make sure you still have a supply of the items you prepared for last week:
 - ❖ Tracking charts (for kids' use in recording progress through the SALT steps)
 - ❖ Invitations ([Great ShakeUP](#)-theme invitations available free or link to pre-printed invitations available for purchase)
 - ❖ Parent/guardian letters (explains [Great ShakeUP](#) event and asks for assistance, especially in the area of transportation)

Set ...

- This week's lesson has two purposes: to encourage your clubbers in the [Pass the SALT](#) method that you taught them last week, and to connect with the parents who have come for your parent's night. Is it possible to speak to (and connect with) a mixed group of kids and adults at the same time? Of course! Enthusiasm, clarity and authenticity appeal to all age groups.
- Speaking of parents, let's think about these important folks for a moment. These are the people who have the most influence (by God's design) on the kids that you care so much about in your Awana ministry. Many are believers, faithfully discipling their kids in the Lord. However, you know that many others are not. What can you do to connect with them during this week's lesson and in the future?
 - ❖ Pray faithfully for them, as you do for their children.
 - ❖ Talk openly and honestly about their children with them; encourage them in their parenting in any way that you can.
 - ❖ Show them how they can help their child succeed in Awana.
 - ❖ Share the gospel with them as the Lord gives opportunity.
- Have you heard about the Parent Welcome Booklet? It introduces parents of first-time visiting clubbers to the exciting world their child has just experienced! (Visit the [Great ShakeUP](#) Web page for a link to this item, now available for purchase.) We pray that this piece will help you begin to build a bridge of



relationship and ministry to the parents of new clubbers, many of whom are unsaved. And, though parents attending this week's club won't be "first-timers," it would be good to distribute copies since they may have (or form) relationships with the parents of kids who come to the **Great ShakeUP** next week. It's also a great pass-along item for neighbors or coworkers.

Go!

Hello boys and girls! Hello moms and dads! It's wonderful to see all of you! I'm so excited for us to talk together about sharing the good news of Jesus with friends that need to know about God's great gift.

Two weeks ago we all had popcorn. Remember that? It just kept coming! It wouldn't stop! It reminded us that God's wonderful gift of eternal life in Jesus is for everybody and that we shouldn't keep such a great gift to ourselves. We need to share the good things God has given us through His Son Jesus.

Then last week was **Pass the SALT** week. First, we learned a little bit about salt. Remember how salt changes the way our food tastes? Jesus used salt as a picture to show how Christians can change the world. How can we be like salt? By sharing the message that Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, died to pay the penalty for our sins, and rose from the dead so that we can have eternal life.

The letters in the word SALT also gave us a great way to make sure we can bring as many friends as we can to the **Great ShakeUP** next week. The **Great ShakeUP** will be an extra-special Awana club meeting, but more importantly it will be a time for lots of kids to learn about Jesus and what He did for us on the cross.

Now, clubbers, here's a chance to impress these parents! Who can remember what SALT stands for?

(Review; reuse the poster boards from last week.)

- S stands for what? **Search** – Think of friends who need to come to the **Great ShakeUP** and hear about Jesus. Remember to write their names on your tracking chart!
- A is for what? **Ask God** – That the people on your chart would want to come to the **Great ShakeUP** – and that they would trust Jesus as Savior.
- L is for what? **Link** – Invite the people on your chart to come to the **Great ShakeUP** and make sure they know what, when, and where it is.
- T stands for what? **Transport** – Make sure they have a ride and answer any questions that might stop someone from coming to the **Great ShakeUP**!

Great job! Now, how are you guys actually **doing** with **Pass the SALT**?

- How many of you have done the **Search** and written down the names of kids you want to invite on your tracking chart? Hopefully you've done it – the **Great ShakeUP** is only one week away! If you haven't searched, start thinking about it tonight!

- What about **Ask God**? Have you been praying for the people on your chart? In many ways, that's the most important step because it's the God step!
- How many have made the **Link** by asking someone to come to the **Great ShakeUP**? Now is the time to be inviting people! Let your leader know if you need invitations.
- And don't forget **Transport** – Parents, here's where you come in. Would you help your child get his or her friends here next week? They can't do it without you! We did send a letter home last week with this and other information for you. If you didn't get one, please see me or your child's leader for a copy and/or to ask any questions.

Isn't this cool? All you kids, and parents too, teaming up to get friends, neighbors, cousins, and others who don't know Jesus to come next week for the **Great ShakeUP**! Keep up the great work, and definitely keep asking God about the people on your chart.

Remember, God may say yes, no, or wait when we ask Him for things. But here are two things we can know for sure:

1. He hears our prayers. 1 John 5:14 says: *And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us.*
2. We can trust Him. Philippians 4:6-7 says: *Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

(The following skit is designed to reinforce the SALT steps. Since the kids will have heard the steps several times in a more "straightforward" presentation, the skit uses a humorous approach with some obvious offbeat answers that kids should recognize as being incorrect. After the skit, the Q&A will help you to assess understanding and clarify anything they're still not "getting."

Note: If you're blessed with a couple of confident young actors in your club, you could have them perform the skit ... replace MAN and WOMAN and adjust names in script according to actors' genders.

*Before using the skit, however, think about the kids (and parents) who will be your audience. If you think it won't work, feel free to replace it with a more suitable style of review. You could also lead a time of prayer for kids who have been invited to the **Great ShakeUP**.)*

Now, I have a couple of friends here who still don't quite understand what it is that we're trying to do with **Pass the SALT**. We're going to listen to them try to figure this out, and maybe we can help them out before they're done. Let's see.

THE GREAT OMISSION

MAN comes onstage with a large bag of popcorn – much more than he needs, taking handfuls and stuffing them in his mouth.

MAN: This is great. Mmmm! I love popcorn!

WOMAN enters and sees MAN eating popcorn. She shows obvious signs that she too would like to have some, but the MAN is oblivious.

MAN: You know, something is bothering me. I'm supposed to give this popcorn away. And they even told me four things to do, but I still don't get it.

WOMAN (*eying the popcorn bag*): Maybe I can help. And that popcorn sure looks good (*moves toward popcorn bag*).

MAN (*moving away absently, woman shows disappointment*): Yeah I'm supposed to **SEARCH** for someone to share my popcorn with. But I don't know anyone who would want to share my popcorn.

WOMAN (*brightening*): Well ... maybe I could, you know ...

MAN: Oh, I'm sorry! (*Smacks his forehead*) Silly me! (*Woman brightens again and reaches toward bag, and man moves away*) ... You can help me think of someone!

WOMAN (*dejectedly*): Not exactly what I had in mind.

MAN: Oh, and then they want me to write it down. Like I'd forget. What did you say your name was?

WOMAN: Lisa.

MAN: Yeah, write the names down so I won't forget. Isn't that the silliest thing you've ever heard, Julie?

WOMAN: Lisa.

MAN: Who's Lisa? Oh, never mind. Next they want me to pray. **ASK** God, they say. What would I need to ask God?

WOMAN (*slightly irritated*): How about to help you know who might want some of your popcorn? (*Leaning in a bit*) And that they would **GET** some.

MAN (*considers a moment*): Naaah! Then there's **LINK**. Tell people where they can find some popcorn.

WOMAN (*a little more irritated*): Yeah, where **COULD** I get some popcorn?

MAN (*like everyone should know*): At the popcorn stand! Duh!

WOMAN: How about some more information. Like **WHERE** the popcorn stand is, **WHEN** it's open and **HOW** to get there?

MAN: Ah, everybody knows that!

WOMAN: Not necessarily.

MAN: Oh, and then **TRANSPORT**. Find a way to get them there. Can't they just get a ride with their parents or something? Man, that's THEIR problem!

WOMAN: I think I know the person with the problem. *(Turns and leaves)*

MAN: What's up with her? *(Takes a big handful of popcorn out of his bag)* She sure could use some popcorn. *(Stuffs the popcorn in his mouth and leaves)*

* * *

(Large Group Time leader returns)

Did that guy get it? Let's see if we can straighten this out. Remember what the popcorn stands for? The good news about Jesus, right? But we're not actually using the **Pass the SALT** method to share *popcorn*, right? We're using it to invite friends to hear about Jesus. But we can still straighten him out (and boy, did he NEED straightening out!) and maybe review a few things in the process.

OK, where did this guy go wrong with his SALT method? Was he **SEARCHING** the right way? *(Allow time for a correct response, but don't drag it out if kids don't volunteer the right answer.)* No, there was someone right there in front of him who wanted his popcorn. Some of the kids you see every day may need to hear about Jesus the most. Write their names down on your **Great ShakeUP** chart so you don't forget them.

Your chart is also a good reminder to **ASK** God – to pray! In the skit, Lisa came up with two things to pray for about popcorn, and they're good for you to use for real too. One is that you could think of friends to invite, and the other is that they would want to come to the **Great ShakeUP** to hear about Jesus.

Then what about **LINK**? Did our friend do a good job there? No. He didn't tell Lisa when or where to come. He didn't link her with all the right information. We might even call him the missing link!

And what about **TRANSPORT**? Do you remember what he said? "That's their problem!" It might be, but you can sure help solve the problem by offering to give friends a ride or helping them not be nervous about coming to the **Great ShakeUP**. Parents, thank you again for all you do, including helping get your child's friends here next week. Kids, let's give all these super-parents a big round of applause!

Well, we've got one more week until the **Great ShakeUP**. Can you remember which of the SALT steps you need to go home and do? Great! Let's pray.

*(Prayer for kids to **SEARCH, ASK GOD** about, **LINK** and **TRANSPORT** their friends to the **Great ShakeUP**, that they would have a great time, and most important of all that the friends would understand what Jesus did for them – that He came to earth, died to pay the penalty for our sins, and rose again so we could have eternal life and live someday with Him in heaven.)*