

PREPARATION

- Read Matthew 28 twice.
- Set up your room, as you did last week. Use all the same maps, props, globes, globe beach balls and toys and arrange them in similar fashion. Also have a marker board or large paper to write on during your lesson.
- Write each letter of the word SALT on separate pieces of poster board. On the reverse side of each piece, write the letter's corresponding word as defined in the lesson. (For example, S on one side; Search on the other side.) Color poster board is more visually interesting than white, but be sure that your letters and words are large and dark enough to be read by all the kids in the room.
- Have table salt and pictures of uncooked meat as props.
- Arrange ahead of time for four clubbers to hold the letter cards and turn them over at the appropriate times to reveal the words.
- Print several items from The Great ShakeUP Web page (www.awana.org/shakeup), photocopy them and hand them out at the end of your Large Group Lesson Time, at your closing ceremony or at whatever time works best for your club:
 - Tracking charts (for kids' use in tracking progress through the SALT steps)
 - Invitations (free Great ShakeUP-theme invitations and links to pre-printed invitations available for purchase)
 - Parent/guardian letter (explains The Great ShakeUP event and asks them to come on week three of The Great ShakeUP). The letter also asks for assistance, especially with transportation.

LESSON

Hey kids! Remember last week we talked about how Jesus took care of the punishment for our sin and how His life, death and resurrection give us a way to be with God?

Tonight we will talk more about how the news of Jesus' life and death has spread over the entire world!

(Show the clubbers a world map and have them gather around it. A quick geography lesson might be in order. Point out the various continents: Africa, Antarctica, North and South America, Australia, Asia and Europe.

Tell them that each continent [except Australia and Antarctica] is made up of several countries and that they have many different people groups.)

Did you know that in each of these continents (except Antarctica because no one lives there) the gospel has been shared? Do you know where the gospel started? (Point to the Jerusalem/Bethlehem area.) This is where Jesus



was born. About the time He turned 30 years old, He started teaching and preaching. He walked almost everywhere He went. Occasionally He used a boat to cross the sea or to be with His disciples.

For the most part, the good news about Jesus spread by word of mouth. Back in Bible times no one had the Internet, TV, iPods® or radios to communicate with other people. If you wanted someone to know something, you had to write him a letter or tell him face to face.

Did you know you can share the good news about Jesus by word of mouth too? Tonight we want to talk about how you can do that. Telling others about Jesus can be hard to do at first. But after tonight, you'll know how to do it!

You may be wondering, "Well, I do want to help people know Jesus, but where do I start? Are there right and wrong words?"

(If you have done The Great ShakeUP in past years, mention that you will use the same SALT method as last year. This may help older clubbers remember. If you have new children who didn't hear it before, assure them that they will also be able to participate because you will explain it completely to everyone. If this is your first year using The Great ShakeUP, the SALT acronym will help your clubbers remember an easy way to invite friends to club.)

In Matthew 5:13, Jesus told His followers that they were the salt of the earth. In Bible times, there were no refrigerators to keep food from spoiling or going bad. *(Show your salt and pictures of uncooked meat at this time.)* Back then salt was used as a preservative to keep food fresh. When Jesus called His disciples the salt of the earth, He was calling them a preservative (something that keeps food from spoiling). Why do you think Jesus would call Christians "salt"? Because salt changes things. When Christians spread the good news about Jesus, it can change people's lives and show them how to get to heaven.

Tonight, we will look at four things that you can do to spread the good news and be like salt. (These aren't the only things you can do, but they will help you invite friends to The Great ShakeUP — and might help you think of other ways to be like salt.) Basically, SALT is about bringing your friends to The Great ShakeUP so they can have as great a time as you do and so they can hear about how to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ too.

To help us remember the four things you all can do, we will use the word SALT. Each letter will help us remember one of the four things.

The first letter in SALT is S, and S stands for *(motion to first "poster child" to turn the first poster board over) ... Search.* The first thing you need to do is search for someone to invite to The Great ShakeUP in two weeks. Do you know someone who needs to come to The Great ShakeUP to hear about Jesus? At your school? In your neighborhood? On a sports team or other activity you go to? *(Take suggestions, let this be interactive, praise kids for*



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great ideas.) Ask God to help you think of people who could come to The Great ShakeUP. Then write those names down on the special Great ShakeUP chart we will give you before you leave tonight. It's important to write them down so you won't forget them. OK, so let's say it together. S stands for _____ . (Search!)

The next letter in SALT is A, and A stands for (*motion to second "poster child" to turn the second poster board over*) ... **Ask God**. One of the things you can ask God is to help you talk to the people that you wrote down on your chart so they will understand. Ask God to give them the desire to come to The Great ShakeUP and hear about Him. Ask for the courage to invite them. Ask that they would trust Jesus as their Savior. Talk to God about this every day ... He loves to hear from you!

Here's something important to know about asking God for things. He doesn't always say yes! But He has promised to give us the things we need. Here are two things we can know for sure when we talk to God in prayer:

1. **He hears our prayers. Who would like to read 1 John 5:14?** (*Either have a Bible open and ready to read for the clubber, or use this as an opportunity to review the order of the last few books of the Bible as they search for 1 John.*)
2. **We can trust Him. Who would like to read Philippians 4:6-7?** (*Either have a Bible open and ready to read for the clubber, or use this as an opportunity to review the order of the middle books of the New Testament as they search for Philippians.*)

Now, let's review. S is for _____ (Search). A is for _____ (Ask God).

The third letter in SALT is L, and L stands for (*motion to third "poster child" to turn the third poster board over*) ... **Link**. After you've searched out friends and asked God for His help, it's time to link your friends to Awana by inviting them to come! When you ask them to come, be sure to tell them:

What it is — The Great ShakeUP ... fun Awana games and a cool Bible lesson

When it is — night and time

Where it is — location of our club

The last letter in SALT is T, and T stands for (*motion to fourth "poster child" to turn the last poster board over*) ... **Transport!** That means that you need to find a way to make it easy for the kids you link, or invite, to The Great ShakeUP to come! Do they need a ride? Ask your mom and dad if they can call your friends' parents for you. If you ask your friends on your own, make sure it's OK with your parent or whoever brings you to Awana, and then tell your friend they can get a ride with you! But it's not only about giving



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someone a ride. Other things might keep them from coming to The Great ShakeUP. Can you think of anything else? Are they shy about meeting new people? Tell them they can stay with you during The Great ShakeUP! Are they not sure they'd like the games? Tell them they can just watch! Do whatever you can to help someone get to The Great ShakeUP. (Remember, though, that sometimes a parent won't let a kid come no matter what you do to help or answer questions — all you can do is try!)

So, let's run through S-A-L-T again — along with some ideas to help you really do it!

- **S stands for what? Search** — Think of friends who need to come to The Great ShakeUP and hear about Jesus.

Here are some ways you can show them:

- **Idea:** (Leaders, use this only if you are purchasing the rubber wristbands. See the ShakeUP Web page.) **Show friends your official Great ShakeUP wristband! And, if they come to The Great ShakeUP with you, they'll get one too!**
- **Idea:** If it's OK with a parent and your school dress code, wear your Awana uniform to school one day during the next two weeks.

Who can raise his hand and tell me other ways you can do the “search” step? (Allow a few clubbers to answer.)

- **A is for what? Ask God** — Pray that the people on your chart would want to come to The Great ShakeUP — and that they would trust Jesus as Savior.
 - **Idea:** Use your chart as you talk to God; go down the chart and ask Him about each person!
 - **Idea:** If your parent or guardian has trusted Jesus Christ as Savior, show them your chart and ask them to pray with you.
- **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.

Idea: Use one of our special invitations when you make the link with the people on your chart. (Leaders, information on several invitation options is available on the ShakeUP Web page.)

Idea: Make sure your Mom, Dad or guardian gets the letter we're sending home with you tonight. (Leaders, the letter is on the ShakeUP Web page.) It's always good to let adults know before you invite people to Awana. Plus, they may be able to help you deliver your invitations!

- **And what about T? Transport** — help solve whatever problem might stop someone from coming to The Great ShakeUP!



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— Idea: I just said this, but I'll say it again because it's important. Make sure your mom, dad or guardian gets the letter we're sending home with you tonight. We want them to know about The Great ShakeUP so that they can help too.

So, one more time! S is for _____, A is for _____, L is for _____, T is for _____. Great!!
Now that you know the four things to do, are you ready to Pass the SALT™?
Let's do it and see how many kids we can get here in two weeks for
The Great ShakeUP!

(Close in prayer, asking the Lord to help each child remember how to be SALT and to do the things the letters represent.)



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