

PREPARATION

- Read Matthew 28 twice.
- Set up your room with a global theme, as you did last week. Use all the same props and arrange them in similar fashion. Also set up a marker board or large paper to write on during your lesson.
- Use your preprinted letters of the word SALT and arrange them so everyone can see them.
- Make sure you still have a supply of the items you prepared for last week from The Great ShakeUP Web page (www.awana.org/shakeup):
 - Progress charts (for tracking kids' progress through the SALT steps)
 - Invitations (free Great ShakeUP-theme invitations available and link to preprinted invitations available for purchase)
 - Parent/guardian letter (explains Great ShakeUP event and asks for assistance, especially with transportation).

LESSON

Last week we discussed how people spread the good news of the gospel by telling others.

Let's read Matthew 28:18-20 out loud.

Our Great ShakeUP theme comes from these verses. They tell us to share the good news of Jesus to the world! But who is the world? Do you have to tell every person until you tell EVERYONE? Let's look at another verse that helps explain it.

Let's read Acts 1:8 out loud.

In the verse, Jesus told His followers to tell people in Jerusalem about Him. *(Show Jerusalem on one of the maps or globes in your room. Show the clubbers where your church is in relation to Jerusalem.)* Now, to us that looks far away. But to the people listening to Jesus, Jerusalem was practically their back yard! Jesus was saying, "Tell your family and your next door neighbors about Me."

Then Jesus said to go to Judea and Samaria to tell others. *(Show Judea and Samaria on a map.)* Again, that's far away from here. But to those listening to Jesus, Judea and Samaria were the places near their houses. *(Pick an area around the city where your church meets that most of the children would know of and explain that if Jesus were here talking to them, He might choose that place as an example.)* Jesus was telling His followers to tell the people in and around their towns. Also, people from Samaria were enemies of many of the people listening to Jesus. Jesus told His followers that they even needed to tell the people they didn't get along with!



Finally, Jesus told His followers that they needed to go to the ends of the world! As if telling all their neighbors and friends and enemies in their towns wasn't enough, Jesus wanted them to go far, far away! Let's look at the map again. Can you find a place that looks like the end of the world? *(Let the children come up and point to places far away.)*

Some people do move to far away countries to tell people about Jesus. We usually call them missionaries. This is a job that God will prepare you for as you get older, if He wants you to go. But if you don't go to a far away country, He still wants to use you to tell the people right around you – your neighbors, friends and the people that you meet everywhere and anywhere – about Jesus.

You can start telling people about Jesus today!

Isn't it nice to know that God uses His followers to help others follow Him? God uses people like you to spread the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. God might actually use us to help our friends trust Christ for salvation! What a cool thing for us to experience!

The letters in the word SALT gave us a great way to think about how we can bring a lot of friends 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 the progress chart!
- **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.
- **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 help them in any way you can so they can come to The Great ShakeUP!

Great job! Now, how are you doing so far with the SALT method?

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



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- **What about Ask God? Have you been praying for the people on your chart? 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 sent a letter home last week with this and other information. If you didn't get one, please see me or your child's leader for a copy or if you have any questions.**

Isn't this cool? All of you, 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.

(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 their understanding and clarify anything they're still not "getting.")

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

Before using the skit, however, think about the kids [and parents] who will be your audience. If you think this style won't work, feel free to replace it with a more suitable style of review. You could also lead a time of prayer [by name] 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'll listen to them and maybe we can help them figure it out. Let's see.

Did Someone Say "JESUS?"

MAN comes onstage with a map, a globe, a compass and a suitcase and with a camera around his neck.

MAN: I can't wait to go on my trip!

WOMAN enters and sees MAN with vacation paraphernalia. She shows obvious signs that she would like to know where he is going and what he is up to, but the man is oblivious.

MAN (finally looking at the woman): You know what! I'm headed to another country. A country far, far away. I can't wait to go!



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WOMAN (*eying the suitcase*): Are you going on vacation?

MAN (*looks at the woman as if she's asking a ridiculous question*): No, I'm going on a trip to tell people about Jesus.

WOMAN (*curious and leaning in*): Jesus? Who is Jes ...

MAN (*interrupting her*): The place I'm going to is filled with people who don't know anything about salvation. In a lot of the small towns we will visit, they have never even heard of Jesus before.

WOMAN (*cautiously*): Salvation?

MAN: Yeah, at Awana, the club I go to every week at my church, they gave us a good way to remember how to let other people know about Jesus. I think I'll use what I've learned when I'm on my trip.

WOMAN (*trying to find another way to ask about who this Jesus is*): Who is Jes ... um ... What did they tell you to say?

MAN: They want me to think or SEARCH for a person to tell. I figure I'll just tell everyone that I meet once I get to the country. They also want me to pray. ASK God, they say. What would I need to ask God? I'm trying to remember ...

WOMAN (*slightly irritated*): Maybe that God would help you know who you might want to tell about Jesus? (*Leaning in a bit*) And maybe that you would actually realize that there are people right around you that don't know about Jesus.

MAN (*considers a moment*): Naaah! Then there's LINK. Tell people where they can go to find out more about Jesus. This is the tough one though. The people in the other country aren't going to be able to get on the plane with me and come to my church. I hope they have some churches there. Maybe I can help them find one.

WOMAN (*slightly irritated*): Yeah, where COULD I find out more about Jesus?

MAN (*like everyone should know*): At church, silly!

WOMAN: How about some more information. Like WHERE the church is, WHEN I should go and HOW I can get there?

MAN: Ah, *everybody* knows that!

WOMAN: Not really ...

MAN (*ignoring her last comment*): Oh, and then I need to remember TRANSPORT. Find a way to get them to church. Can't they just get a ride with their parents or something? Man, that's THEIR problem!



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WOMAN (*interrupts and starts walking away as she talks*): I think I know the person with the problem. (*Turns and leaves.*)

MAN: What's up with her? (*Picks up suitcase and map.*) She sure could learn how to listen. (*Exits while looking at map.*)

(Large Group Time leader returns.)

Did that guy get it? Let's see if we can straighten this out (and boy, did he NEED straightening out!).

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.*) **Well, he was right that people in other countries do need to know Jesus. But he was thinking that he had to be in another country in order to tell people about Jesus. He didn't even notice that the person talking to him needed Jesus. She was even asking questions! Some of the friends you see every day may need to hear about Jesus. 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, the woman came up with two things to pray for, and they're good for you to use 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 her when or where to come. He didn't link her with all the right information.

And what about TRANSPORT? Do you remember what he said? "What's the problem?" If any of your friends can't find a way to get here next week, you can help by offering to give them a ride. Or perhaps you can help 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 is the most important? Great! Pray for God to use you to help your friends know Jesus.

Let's pray!

(Pray 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 importantly, 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. Pray that God would also use the clubbers to help their friends come to know Jesus.)



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