

PREPARATION

- Read Acts 2 twice.
- Set up your room like a party, as you did last week. Use all the same props as last week and arrange them in similar fashion. Also have a marker board or large paper that you can write on during your lesson.
- Use your pre-printed 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:
 - Progress charts (for kids' use in tracking 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)

LESSON

Last week we discussed how the early church attracted respect and favor. We also learned a way of remembering how to invite friends to club.

Who can tell me what we discovered about the early church the last two weeks? *(They met together, prayed for each other, listened to God's people teach God's Word, and ate together. They also learned last week that Jesus' followers cared for people's needs.)*

Tonight we will see one more way God worked in the lives of Jesus' followers. *(Read Acts 2:42–47.)*

These are the verses we read and talked about the last two weeks. Tonight we will focus on the very last verse, especially the last few words.

The last part of the verse tells us that God daily brought people to salvation and the church grew.

Isn't it nice to know that God uses His followers to help others follow Him? God uses the people in His Church to spread the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. If you have trusted Christ to be your Savior, you are a part of the Church made up of all believers in Christ! What a cool thing for us to experience! God might actually use us to help our friends trust Christ for salvation!

The letters in the word *SALT* gave us a great way to think about how we can bring as many friends as possible 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. Ask 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 actually doing 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!
- 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 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 and/or to ask any questions.

Isn't this cool? All of you, and parents too, are 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 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 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 [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 before they're done. Let's see.



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DID SOMEONE SAY PARTY?

MAN: *(Comes onstage with a party hat, streamers, noise makers — much more than he needs, making it obvious he is planning a party.)*

MAN: This is great. Mmmm! I love a good celebration!

WOMAN: *(Enters and sees man with party favors. She shows obvious signs that she too would like to be invited, but the man is oblivious.)*

MAN: You know, something is bothering me. I'm supposed to invite friends to a party. And they even told me four things to do but I still don't get it.

WOMAN: *(Eying the party favors)* Maybe I can help. And those party favors sure look fun! *(Moves toward a streamer hanging out of his pocket.)* Are those invita ...

MAN: *(Interrupts her saying invitations and moves away absently; woman shows disappointment.)* Yeah, I'm supposed to SEARCH for someone to invite to the celebration. But I don't know anyone who would want to come.

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

MAN: Oh, I'm sorry! *(Smacks his forehead.)* Silly me! *(Woman brightens again and reaches toward invitations, 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)* Maybe that God would help you know who might want to be invited to the celebration? *(Leaning in a bit)* And maybe that they would actually come to the party?

MAN: *(Considers a moment)* Naaah! Then there's LINK. Tell people where they can find some party favors — you know, things to help them celebrate.

WOMAN: *(A little more irritated)* Yeah, where COULD I get some party favors?

MAN: *(Like everyone should know)* At the party store! Duh!



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WOMAN: How about some more information, like WHERE the party is, WHEN it's happening, and HOW to get there?

MAN: Ah, everybody knows that!

WOMAN: Not really ...

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 party favors out of his bag.)* She sure could use a fun celebration. *(Blows his noise maker and walks off the stage.)*

(Large Group Time leader returns)

Did that guy get it? Let's see if we can straighten this out. Remember what the celebration stands for? The good news about Jesus, right? We're using the SALT method 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 to be invited to the celebration. 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 the celebration, 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 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 do? Great! Pray for God to add to our number as He did in Acts 2:47 for the early church. 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 important of all that the friends would understand what Jesus did for them — that He



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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 add people to your number, just like in Acts 2:47.)



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