**Elementary**  
**Lesson 10: Jesus Teaches That Are to Be Salt And Light**  
**February 12/13**

**Bible Point:** We Can Help Others See Jesus

**Key Verse:** “In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.”  
(Matthew 5:16)

| Pre Activity | 10 min | ICEBREAKER: First 5 Min:  
Welcome children to the classroom as they arrive.  
Ask the children about what they remember from last week’s lesson.

**Tithing**

**Small Group Icebreaker-**  
**Fun Question of the Day:** What is your favorite salty treat?  
(each child will give an answer, then the group decides on the most creative; they will then share their group answer at the beginning of large group lesson time: may the group with the most creative answer win!)  
*Take kids to 203 for worship and the lesson at ten after.*

| Worship | 15 min | WORSHIP:  
Lesson Leader (LL): Welcome children and state the lesson name and bible point. Open in prayer. Begin worship by getting kids excited!

**Worship:**  
1. We Shine  
2. Live It Out  
When songs are completed, have the kids sit in a big circle. (teachers joining the circle; preferably sitting near those that are more quick to distract)

| Lesson | 15 - 20 min | LARGE GROUP LESSON:  
LL: Before we begin our lesson today, let’s let each small group share their best answer for the ‘fun question’ of the day! What is your favorite salty treat?  
**PRAYER** – open in prayer

**Key verse**  
“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven”.  
(Matthew 5:16)

|   |   | Tithing Buckets

|   |   | Live It Out CD Laptop

|   |   | Bible
**Bible Story**

Before we head into our lesson time we are going to do some taste testing. (prior to the lesson time place some salted ketchup in a small cup and some unsalted in a small cup). Who wants to volunteer to taste these two different types of ketchup? (have a few kids test it). What do you think is the difference between the two?

We are going to talk about what Jesus means by teaching us to be SALT AND LIGHT. Read Matthew 5:13-16

This passage is a continuation of Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount. In it Jesus talks about what he would like his followers to do and be in this world: salt and light. Salt is very different from other tastes that we know. If Christians are to be salt, it is important that our words, attitudes and actions are distinctive from everyone else’s.

Salt enhances whatever it is added to. Just as salt enhances and changes the flavor of food, like the ketchup we tasted, Christians are to change the flavor of whatever environment we find ourselves in. Instead of being influenced by our culture, we are to influence our culture for good. We have to bring the best in our culture, just as salt brings out the best flavor of food.

Another interesting thing about salt is that it is a preservative; it prevents food from spoiling. In the same way, we should act as a preservative-examples of purity in a decaying world, arresting decay by our presence. In addition, salt melts ice. As our world’s salt, Christians can help to melt the cold resistance of those who haven’t embraced Jesus and cause their hearts to be more open to him.

In verse 13, Jesus points out that salt that has lost its flavor is worthless; it is nothing more than sand. In the same way, our contributions to God’s kingdom are worthless if we are not acting as salt in our world.

Jesus’ second metaphor, about light, issues much the same call as the first. Light drives our darkness. As the light of the sun overcomes the darkness of night, we are to be the light that overcomes the darkness of sin around us.

Everyone has seen the lights of a city at night. The higher on a hillside the city is, the farther away its light can be seen. In biblical times, the light from a city drew people from the frightening dangers of the wilderness to safety within the city’s walls. As we hold our light higher for Jesus, more and more
people will see it and will run to him for eternal life.

The light of a city on a hill cannot be hidden, but an individual’s light can. If we want to, we can hide our light with some kind of covering, something that doesn’t allow the light of Jesus within us to shine. But we are called to let that light shine so that everyone around us can see it.

Finally, we are not called to shine for our own benefit. In telling others about Jesus, we are not to be motivated by personal pride or glory. Rather, our purpose is to praise God. As people around us are drawn to the light we reflect, we must direct them to the source of that light: Jesus, the inextinguishable light of the world.

**SMALL GROUPS:**

ALL SMALL GROUPS: Key Verse
Let's all read the key verse together again

Key Verse

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.”

(Matthew 5:16)

Depending on today’s group, there are a few choices of activities for smaller and older children

**EXPERIMENT:**

Take your object (ball, crayon or similar) and place it in a bowl with water. The object will sink all the way to the bottom. Now put enough salt in the bowl so that the object floats. Talk about today’s lesson, and relate it to this situation. We saw an example of how salt changed the substance of water.

**SALTY CROSS:**

Have kids cut a cross out of paper, they could write today’s key verse on one side, and glue some salt on the other side of their cross.

**OLDER KIDS:**

How do we act in certain situations as the SALT and LIGHT Jesus commands us to be?
Have children form groups of 3-4 (or pairs) depending on size of the class. Give each group 2 pictures of situations in which they should act as *salt and light*.

1) situation – they are to act as salt
2) situation – they are to be light

SITUATIONS: Children bullying someone, new student in the class, telling other children about Jesus, teasing, someone feeling lonely or sad

Summarize what we learned through today’s lesson and make sure that everyone knows what they have to do. Give them about 10 minutes to look at the picture and think about what would they do in those situations. When they are done – have each group stand up and explain to class how would they be *salt and light* we are called to be.

**Prayer – close in prayer**
Take prayer requests from the children. Write them down and then repeat them in summary to the group before you pray. Pray as a group for one another (popcorn prayer, or in order around the circle, or have 2 volunteers- 1 opens and 1 closes).