



CHILDREN'S CORNER

'Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.'

Mark 9:50

Salt

Would you mind passing me the salt, please? This is the mannerly way to ask for salt at mealtimes. However, the usage of salt is not confined to that little shaker in the centre of the dinner table. Salt is used in many different ways. Salt mixed with water, known as 'saline solution', is used as a powerful medical tool to clean wounds or aid someone who is badly dehydrated. In ancient times, salt was a valuable trading commodity. Roman soldiers were often paid in salt, with 'sal' being the Latin word for salary.

In Matthew 5:13, the theme of salt is taken up by the Lord Jesus and is used to describe the Christian. 'Ye are the salt of the earth.' Salt has an effect on the things that are around it. If you are a Christian, you should also have an effect upon and be an influence for good in the lives of those around you. So, let us make some comparisons.

The number one use for salt in the United States is surprisingly not for food, but rather it is to grit the roads during the winter months. It is scattered as a safety precaution to melt snow and ice to prevent injury and loss of life for those travelling about in their vehicles. What a picture of the Christian! By the scattering of words in a witness for the Lord, the Christian can help the unsaved from sliding further into sin and destruction by pointing them to the Lord Jesus. Colossians 4:6 reads, 'Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.'

In a bygone era, salt was used widely as a food preservative. It contains qualities that dispel the growth of harmful bacteria that would otherwise cause foodstuffs to become inedible. Again, what a picture of the believer. Christians

should be an influence for good as they, by their example, seek to curb the destructive, sinful behaviour found in wider society.

In the culinary world, chefs use salt in cooking to enhance the aroma of certain dishes. Salt is also a favourite for seasoning food. It even helps to suppress ingredients that might normally be bitter to the taste. Again, what a good illustration of true Christianity. Believers should be pleasant and full of sweetness and do all they can to drive away bitterness.

God's people have a very important role to play in winning others to the Saviour. Great care must then be taken by Christians to never lose their saltiness. The Lord Jesus warns that if such is the case, then believers that are not salty will be good for nothing.

QUIZ

Salt is just one of the many ingredients found in the kitchen. Look

up the references below to find

more cooking ingredients mentioned in the Bible. Then use the letters found in the highlighted spaces to spell out something we all like to eat.

2nd Chronicles 9:9

Ruth 3:2

1st Peter 2:2

Psalms 119:103

ANSWER:



Are you 12 or under? Send your **answer, name, address and church** to:
Rev Garth Wilson e: answer@fpvision.org