

***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

September 27, 2015

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

***Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29***

***Psalms 19:7-14***

***James 5:13-20***

***Mark 9:38-50***



***Pass the Salt, Please*** Object: A Shaker of Salt, a brightly colored shirt, a leather belt, a plastic toy.

Everyone knows about salt -- we use it every day to make our food taste better. Can you imagine eating a hamburger and fries without salt? They would be pretty tasteless, wouldn't they?

Some of you may not know that making our food taste better is just one of many uses for salt. I read that salt is used in making over 14,000 different products. Here are just a few of the many uses of salt.

- Salt is used in fixing the dye in fabrics like this pretty shirt. Without salt, the bright colors that we wear today would quickly wash out of our fabrics. What a dull place the world would be without salt!
- Salt is also used in making leather. Without salt we would not have many of the leather products that we use every day-- like this belt.
- Salt is used in the chemical industry to make plastics. Without salt, we might not have many of the toys that we play with every day which are made from plastic.

Man has known about the usefulness of salt for many years. At one time, salt was so important that people were paid with salt. Since salt is so important, is it any wonder that Jesus told us that we were to be like salt to the world? Listen to the words of Jesus. "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other." I think that he was saying that we should flavor our world with love and that we should allow him to use us in making the world a better place.

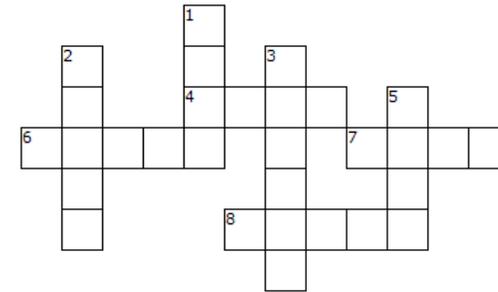
How about you? Are you allowing Jesus to use you to be salt to the world?

Dear Jesus, help us to flavor our world with love and to allow you to use us in making the world a better place. Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia (John. 17:7)

# Crossword Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- A white mineral compound used on food as a seasoning
- Sweet, sour, salty, or bitter qualities of food and drink
- Not bad
- The earth and all of its inhabitants

**DOWN**

- To no longer have something
- Freedom from arguments and disagreements
- The way a food or drink is recognized from its taste
- What we eat to get the nutrients that our body needs

|       |        |       |       |
|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| TASTE | FOOD   | WORLD | PEACE |
| LOSE  | FLAVOR | SALT  | GOOD  |

**SALT SHAKER POCKET:** Give children supplies to decorate a large salt shaker with words from today's prayer. Tack to a bulletin board and leave an open space at the top for the words that the children will place in there. Then have children pick words from today's Bible verse out of a basket and put the words into the salt shaker pocket that the children have decorated. After all the words have been said and jumbled in the salt shaker, let the children take turns in taking words OUT of the salt shaker and putting in order on the classroom table.

**SALT SHAKER VERSE:** Give each child an inexpensive plastic salt shaker from any \$\$ store and provide the Bible verse slip of paper that they can lightly color and tape around the salt shaker. Encourage children to put their salt shaker on their own kitchen tables at home to remind them about adding flavor to their world with GOD's love.

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

MATTHEW 5:13

