

# Lessons from the Salt Shaker!

Mark 9:49-50



# Sodium Chloride (NaCl)



## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

- ☞ Mark 9:33-50
- ☞ I. True greatness in Christ’s kingdom is defined by humility (33-37).
- ☞ II. The kingdom of God is greater than your experience of it (38-41).
- ☞ III. Sin is always our greatest danger (42-48).
  - ☞ A. Causing others to sin (42)
  - ☞ B. Tolerating personal sin (43-48)

## Examples of Salt as a Metaphor

- ☞ 1) Matt. 5 – power of a Christian’s preserving, purifying influence in the world.
- ☞ 2) Luke 14 – permanence of discipleship.
- ☞ 3) Col. 4:6 – proper seasoning of our speech.



## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

- ☞ IV. A willingness to sacrifice everything for Christ is the heart of every true disciple (49)
  - ☞ Lev. 2:13
  - ☞ Cf. Ezek. 43:24 - "You shall present them before the LORD, and the priests shall throw salt on them, and they shall offer them up as a burnt offering to the LORD.
  - ☞ Cf. Num. 18:19 - "All the offerings of the holy gifts, which the sons of Israel offer to the LORD, I have given to you and your sons and your daughters with you, as a perpetual allotment. It is an everlasting covenant of salt before the LORD to you and your descendants with you."
  - ☞ Cf. Rom. 12:1-2 - "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.
  - ☞ Mark 8:34-35; Matt. 10:37-39

## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

- ☞ IV. A willingness to sacrifice everything for Christ is the heart of every true disciple (49)
  - ☞ Application
    - ☞ 1) Being willing to amputate sin out of your life.
    - ☞ 2) Being willing to do anything, go anywhere for Christ and the gospel.
    - ☞ 3) Reminding ourselves daily that our lives are not our own.
      - ☞ Rom. 14:7-8; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Phil. 1:20-21

## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

☞ V. Becoming Christ’s disciple is a permanent commitment (50a)



Dead Sea shoreline



Dead Sea shoreline

## Salt is Good!

- ☞ 1) A seasoning
  - ☞ For man’s food
    - ☞ Job 6:6 - "Can something tasteless be eaten without salt, Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?"
  - ☞ For animals’ food
    - ☞ Is. 30:24 - the oxen and the donkeys which work the ground will eat salted fodder.
- ☞ 2) A preservative
  - ☞ Ex. 30:35 - "With it you shall make incense, a perfume, the work of a perfumer, salted, pure, and holy.
- ☞ 3) A cleanser or purifier
  - ☞ Ezek. 16:4 - "As for your birth, on the day you were born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water for cleansing; you were not rubbed with salt or even wrapped in cloths.



Dead Sea rocks covered with salt

## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

☞ V. Becoming Christ’s disciple is a permanent commitment (50a)

- ☞ Application
  - ☞ 1) That means you better count the cost before you become a disciple of Christ; because you’re signing on permanently.
  - ☞ 2) This underscores the importance of the perseverance of the saints.
  - ☞ 3) There’s no retiring from being Jesus’ disciple.

## “Essential Lessons for Every Disciple.”

☞ VI. A sacrificial heart toward Christ will bear fruit in our relationships with other Christians (50b)

### ☞ Application

- ☞ 1) Jesus puts a huge priority on living at peace with others.
  - ☞ Ps. 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!
  - ☞ Rom. 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.
  - ☞ 2 Cor. 13:11 - Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.
- ☞ 2) If you want to live at peace with the Xns around you – and our Lord commands us to – just remember that you are a living sacrifice.

## Jesus’ Lessons from the Salt Shaker...

- ☞ 1) A willingness to sacrifice everything for Christ is the heart of every true disciple (49)
- ☞ 2) Becoming Christ’s disciple is a permanent commitment (50a)
- ☞ 3) A sacrificial heart toward Christ will bear fruit in our relationships with other Christians (50b)