

E-Series

Are you Salty?



13 *You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. —Matthew 5:13*

Yesterday we listened as Jesus called us the “salt of the earth.” It’s an interesting thing to be called. What exactly did Jesus have in mind when he gave his disciples this moniker?

Salt is a very powerful little chemical. Yesterday we discussed some of the functions and qualities of salt. To recap: Salt...prevents cramps, penetrates (corrodes, deteriorates), preserves, seasons, purifies and creates thirst.

But there’s more. In Jesus’ day, salt was also an expensive, prized commodity—not something as cheap and commonplace as iodized salt today. In fact, a Roman soldier’s pay included an allotment of salt. Our English word *salary* reflects this ancient practice. Salary comes from the Latin word *salarium*, meaning “an allowance of salt.” (Salt has also meant a payday for Joy Morton, the founder of Morton Salt Company. Their website contains an interesting article on the history of salt. [Click here to read it.](#))

By calling us “the salt of the earth,” could Jesus have meant that we are a prized people of great value? I don’t know, but not terribly long after he uttered those words, he paid quite a price on our behalf.

Trying to be Salty,
Pastor Michael



Time to Shine in 2009!