

SS25 Group A | Salt; a noun  
By Kathryn Higgins

*Written for Star Search Group A, based on Matthew 5:13 NIV. To accommodate for larger groups, lines may be shared/divided up, but no lines are to be removed.*

*Suggested casting:*

*ONE -smaller/meeek, TWO – class clown, THREE-smarty-pants, FOUR-older or wiser.*

**Act 1** *Spoken with authority, like a Scripture Alive presentation. Breath in together-*

ALL            You are the salt of the earth.

ONE            But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?

TWO            It is no longer good for anything,

THREE        -except to be thrown out,

FOUR          -and trampled underfoot.

*All stomp. Beat.*

ONE            But ... my auntie says salt is bad.

TWO            It's not bad, it's delicious! Haven't you ever had fresh-cut fries straight out of the hot oil? I can just see those little white flecks soaking into that crispy, tender –

THREE        Not bad tasting; bad for your health.

ONE            No, she meant bad, like, attitude-bad. Auntie says it gets her into, *(spoken like auntie)* all kinds of trouble with my criminologist.

THREE        Cardiologist.

ONE            Whatever.

FOUR          I don't think food can have an attitude.

TWO            Oh yah? I guess you've never tried my uncle Mic's extra-spicy-bean-and-beef dip. Whooo-eee! If that doesn't have an attitude going in, it sure does on the way out- *(High-fives ONE... who is reluctant)*

FOUR          *(cutting TWO off)* Ohhhkay, I think we've gotten off track. Why don't we try this again?

**Act 2** *All reassemble/straighten up. Breath in together – (spoken similarly to the first time)-*

ALL            You are the salt of the earth.

ONE            But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?

TWO            It is no longer good for anything,

THREE        -except to be thrown out,

FOUR         -and trampled underfoot.

*All stomp. Beat.*

ONE            How can salt lose its saltiness?

TWO            Yah, that's like saying, *if soft loses its softi-ness.*

THREE        I don't think that's a word.

ONE            Softi-ness?

FOUR         *Saltiness* works because salt is both a noun and a verb.

THREE        And an adjective.

ONE            Huh?

THREE        Salt water. *(Beat)* You put salt in water, now it is salt water; not salty water.

TWO            So when do we ever use 'salty'?

FOUR         When you're talking about the taste, it's salty.  
*(Mimes sipping salt-water)*  
Mmmm, salty.

ONE            Did you just drink salt water?

THREE        *(Aside.)* Noun.

TWO            You probably shouldn't do that, dude.

ONE            Yah, Auntie says a little goes a long way.

FOUR         I was illustrating a point.

TWO            Through mime? What is this, 1998?

ONE            You could have used like, chips or popcorn instead. Everyone likes those.

TWO Yah, and then we would have understood the teaching-point, and not been distracted by your weird taste in beverages.

FOUR I don't *really* like to drink salt water!

TWO Woah, don't get salty, my dude.

THREE *(Aside.)* Adjective.

FOUR *(Loud)* I. Don't. Put. Salt. In. My. Water!

THREE *(Whispered)* Noun.

FOUR Okay! *(Holds arms up to silence the group.)* Let's try this... again.

**Act 3** *All reassemble/straighten up. Breath in together – there is tension -*

ALL You are the salt of the earth.

ONE But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?

TWO It is no longer good for anything,

THREE -except to be thrown out,

FOUR -and trampled underfoot.

*All stomp. Beat – did they finally make it through? THREE breaks the silence.*

THREE Sooooo, is it saying *you* as in *we*, or *you* as in *God*?

FOUR This passage is Jesus talking to his people.

ONE So *us*.

THREE *(Aside.)* Pronoun.

FOUR Yes.

TWO *We* are the salt –

ONE Ooh, I get it, *salt of the earth!*

TWO God's reps down here.

THREE Salt that could lose its saltiness.

FOUR People at risk of losing their zest –

TWO            Their intensity –

ONE            Their oomph for Jesus.

FOUR          Now we're getting it.

TWO            But if we lose our oomph for Jesus, we're no longer good for anything???

ONE            Well, what good is salt without saltiness?

THREE        It would just be like putting flavorless white specks on your fresh cut fries... for decoration.

TWO            *(Exclaimed.)* What's the point of potatoes without salt?  
*(Beat. Slowly, with new, deep understanding. Maybe a little over the top.)*  
What's the point of potatoes *(pointing to self)* without salt *(pointing up)*?

ALL            *(Except TWO)* Exactly!

FOUR          Ok, one more time for good measure!

**Act 4** *Spoken new-found understanding, a little slower. Breath in together-*

ALL            You *(pointing to crowd)* are the salt *(pointing up)* of the earth.

ONE            But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?

TWO            It is no longer good for anything,

THREE        -except to be thrown out,

FOUR          -and trampled underfoot.

TWO            So stay salty!

ONE            Keep your oomph for Jesus!

*All stomp.*

*End*