



How Do You Make Salt Work? Part 1

The question in this article's title seems elementary, doesn't it? You need only to add some salt to your food. This method works millions of times a day world-wide. Shaking the right amount is the only problem. Jesus called his people to be the salt of the earth. He wants us to change the flavor of the world—to improve it. Seems like a simple order. Yet, like short-minded short-order cooks, we often serve the wrong fare.

Without a doubt, the world's flavor needs changing. Many Christians use questionable tactics, however. Boisterous groups of believers react to what they observe the world doing. Righteous indignation ignites them. They protest. They write their congressmen, call the media, and they picket. I don't blame the unbelievers for their offense at these tactics. Non-Christians resent believers who try to tell them how to live.

Do I approve of the world's sordid behavior? Hardly. I simply think that Christians use their salt in a way contrary to Jesus' teaching. In the presence of bland food, salt doesn't picket and protest the chow's flatness. Salt harmoniously enhances the fare's flavor.

Only the Lord can change folks. Protesting people's actions rarely causes them to change. Jesus befriended sinners, helping them helping them to know God's grace and loving will. Attempting to change the behavior of people who don't know Jesus is worse than trying to teach pigs to sing. Folks don't just become annoyed and irritated. They grow alienated so that no one will ever teach them about the Lord. As Jesus said, **"If you lose your flavor, what will happen to the world? And you yourselves will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless,"** *Matthew 5:13 LB*. Unless we use our salt correctly, the Lord might dispose of us in alley trash bins.



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