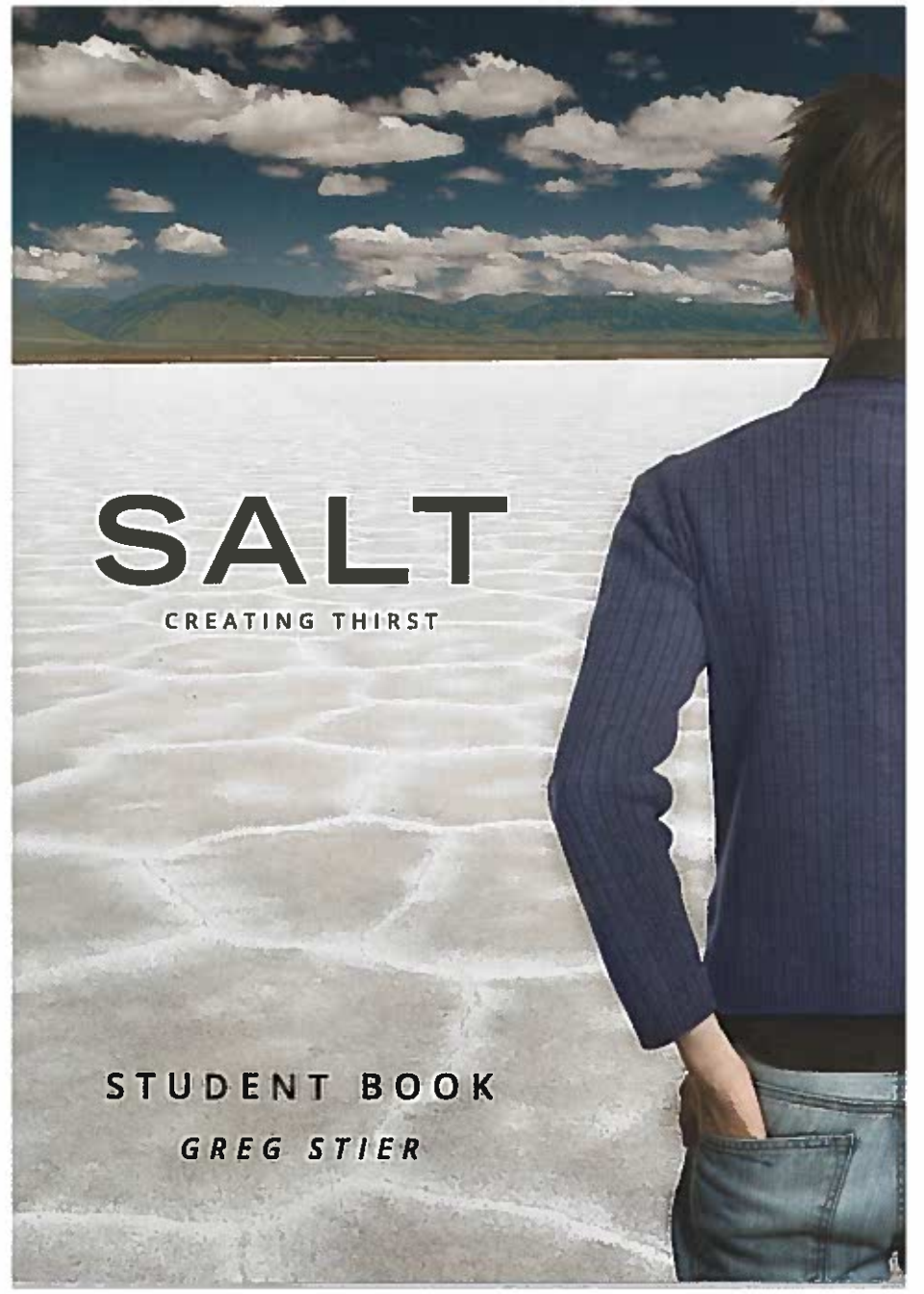


SALT

CREATING THIRST

STUDENT BOOK

GREG STIER

A D2S Publishing book

Salt...Creating Thirst Student Book

For use with *Salt* DVD Curriculum Kit

© 2014 Dare 2 Share Ministries, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of Dare 2 Share Ministries. Address all correspondence to: Dare 2 Share, Attn: Reprint Permission, PO Box 745232, Arvada, CO 80006.

All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The "NIV" and "New International Version" are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

Scripture quotations taken from *The Message* are so noted. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Author: Greg Stier
Editor: Jane Dratz

ISBN: 978-0-9857352-8-9

SALT

CREATING THIRST

Have You Ever Wondered About God? 4

How Valuable Am I? 10

What Happens After We Die? 16

Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen? 22

What Makes for Good Relationships? 28

"Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth."

—Jesus, Matthew 5:13, *The Message*

#1 HAVE YOU EVER **WONDERED** ABOUT GOD?

What are the first five words that jump into *your* head when you hear the word "God"?

5

SEARCH THE BIBLE

Colossians 1:15, 20. *Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation...and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.*

Five things this passage tells me about Jesus.

Philippians 3:8-9. *Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him.*

APPLY THE TRUTH PERSONALLY

If you want to know who God is, know Jesus.

"Jesus said, I am..."

...the bread of life (John 6:35)
...the light of the world (John 8:12)
...the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6)
...the vine; you are the branches (John 15:5)

Draw a sketch depicting whichever "I am" statement intrigues you most. Place yourself somewhere in the sketch you draw.

LISTEN TO OTHERS DEEPLY

THIS WEEK, SHARE THE SALT VIDEO
"Have You Ever Wondered About God?"

You can find this YouTube video at the following link: somethingamazing.net/God. Share the video however you want—on Facebook, by text, tweet, email, side-by-side on your phone or sitting at your computer with your friend. Whatever fits you best.

Pray before you share it and follow it up with, "Let's talk about it. I want to know what you think." Ask questions, listen and engage in give-and-take conversation.

Ask questions like...

- What did you think of the video?
- What do ***you*** think God is like?
- Do you come from a religious background? If so, what was it like?
- Where does your view of God come from?
- Do you think it's legit to just pick and choose what we want God to be like and then believe that about Him?
- Have you ever thought about the God-human connections as a "relationship," instead of as a "religion"?

TALK
ABOUT THE GOSPEL

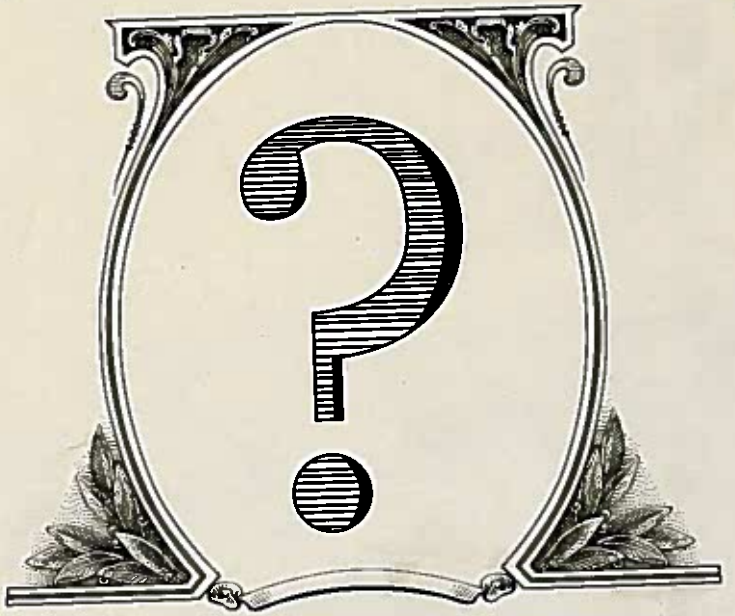
Once you've opened up the conversation and better understand where the other person is coming from, talk about the gospel.

Say something like...

> "Jesus showed us what God is like—relational, loving, giving and forgiving. Has anyone ever explained Jesus' gospel message to you?"

Then take them to the cross and talk about John 3:16: *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (NIV).

For help explaining the gospel to your friends, consider using the "Something Amazing" video available at somethingamazing.net.



#2 HOW VALUABLE AM I?

OUR SENSE OF VALUE SOMETIMES COMES FROM SOURCES LIKE...

ACCOMPLISHMENTS
SELF ATHLETICS
POPULARITY GRADES
TEACHERS DRAMA
TECH TOYS
MONEY CARS MUSIC
APPEARANCE
ABILITIES PARENTS
COACHES ART GOD
CLOTHES
WIT
SMARTS PARTYING
FRIENDS

Which of these most strongly impact your sense of value? Circle your top three, or if none of these are a fit for you, add your own.

SEARCH THE BIBLE

JOHN 8:3-11

As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

"Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?"

They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!" Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?"

"No, Lord," she said.

And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."

JOHN 3:17

"God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him."

APPLY THE TRUTH PERSONALLY

YOU CAN TELL THE VALUE OF SOMETHING BASED ON WHAT SOMEONE IS WILLING TO PAY FOR IT.

Finish these sentences.

No matter who I am, where I've been or how I've been used, I know that God _____.

Because I've sinned, I need a _____.

Jesus came and died on the cross for me, not to _____ me, but in order to _____ me.

LISTEN TO OTHERS DEEPLY

Pray, then share the *Salt* clip "How Valuable Am I?" You can find this YouTube video at the following link: somethingamazing.net/value. Follow up, listen and engage in conversation.

ASK QUESTIONS LIKE:

- What did you think of the video?

- Where do you think a person's value comes from?

- Do you sometimes try to find your value in what people think of you? - Or your clothes…your tech toys…your sports ability…or whatever?

- Have you ever felt like you don't matter?

- Do you think people are ever beyond the reach of God's love and His valuing them?

TALK ABOUT THE GOSPEL

G **God created us to be with Him.**
Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his (Psalm 100:3a, NIV).

O **Our sins separate us from God.**
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23, NIV).

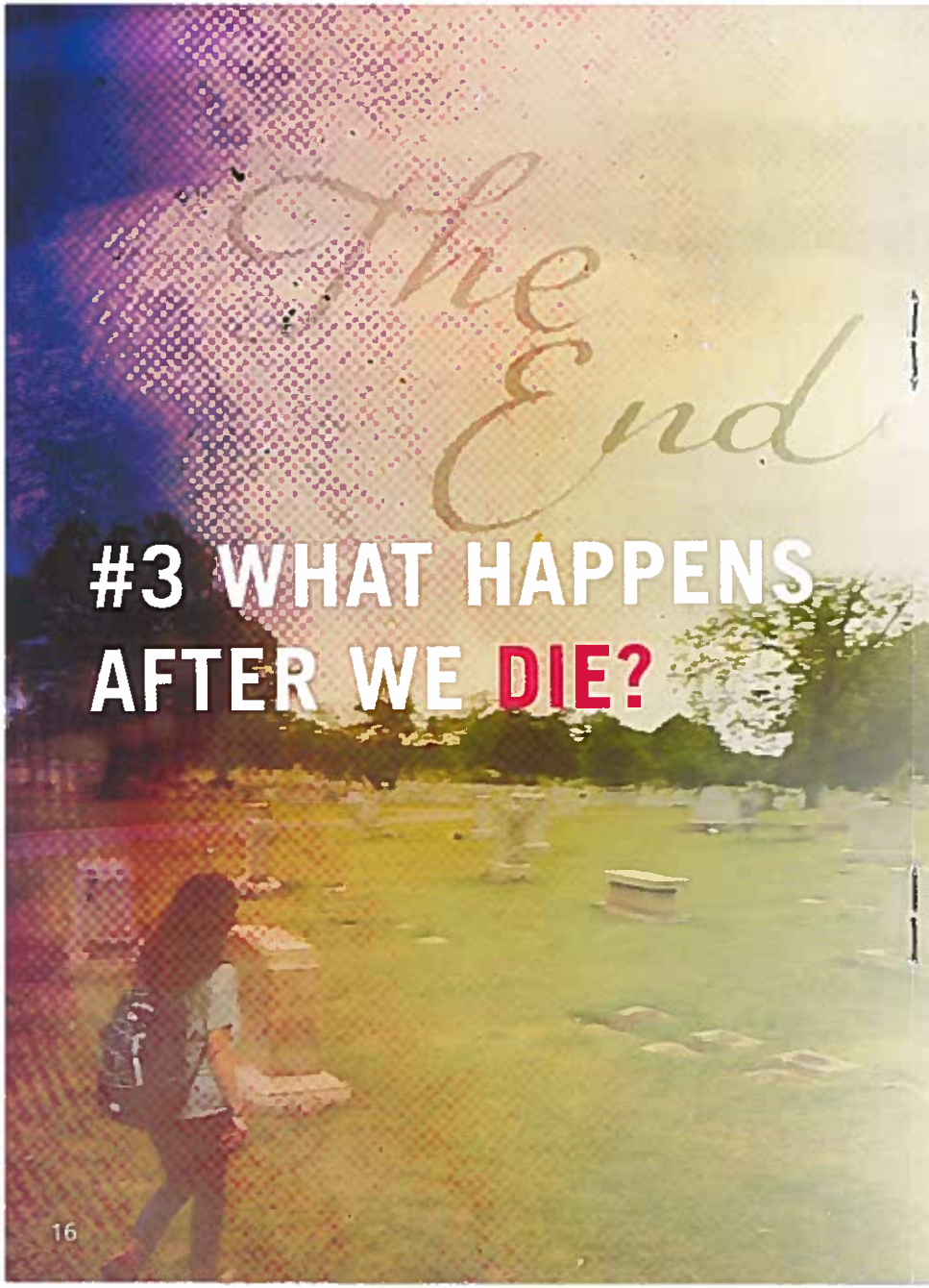
S **Sins cannot be removed by good deeds.**
All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6a, NIV).

P **Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again.**
But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8, NIV).

E **Everyone who trusts in Him alone has eternal life.**
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16, NIV).

L **Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.**
Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent (John 17:3, NIV).

For help explaining the GOSPEL to your friends, share the virally popular "Life in 6 Words: The GOSPEL" video found at LifeIn6Words.com. This spoken word video is also available on the free Dare 2 Share mobile app.



#3 WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?

SEARCH THE BIBLE

JOHN 3:16-18

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son" (NIV).

JOHN 14:6

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

2 THESSALONIANS 1:7-10

...He will come with his mighty angels, in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with eternal destruction, forever separated from the Lord and from his glorious power. When he comes on that day, he will receive glory from his holy people—praise from all who believe. And this includes you, for you believed what we told you about him.

APPLY THE TRUTH PERSONALLY

Sin is man's saying to God throughout life, "Go away and leave me alone." Hell is God's finally saying to man, "You may have your wish." It is God's leaving man to himself, as man has chosen.

- C.S. LEWIS

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE what heaven and hell are like to someone who has never read the Bible? Write a brief description of each.

ACTS 20:26-27

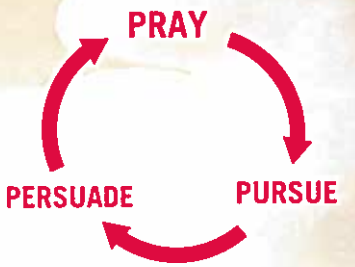
I declare today that I have been faithful. If anyone suffers eternal death, it's not my fault, for I didn't shrink from declaring all that God wants you to know.

Friends I'm Going to...

...Pray for with Passion

...Pursue with Love

...Persuade with Truth



LISTEN TO OTHERS DEEPLY

Pray. Share the video "Then What?" You can find the YouTube video at the following link: somethingamazing.net/then-what. Follow up and engage in give-and-take conversation.

Almost everyone is interested in talking about the afterlife because it's intriguing.

ASK QUESTIONS LIKE...

- What did you think of the video?
- What do you think happens after we die?
- If there is a heaven, what do you think determines whether or not someone goes to heaven?
- Is being "good enough," compared to other people, enough for God to let you into heaven?
- How does being "good enough" measure up against God's standard of perfect holiness?
- Have you ever wondered how a loving God could send people to an eternal hell?
- If you were to die tonight, do you know where you would spend eternity?

TALK ABOUT THE GOSPEL

SAY SOMETHING LIKE...

Did you know that the Bible says that "nothing impure will ever enter" heaven (Revelation 21:27)? That means our efforts to be "good enough" by doing good things are like putting white frosting on a burned cake. Underneath the frosting, the cake is still burned. That's why we need the forgiveness of sin that Jesus' came to provide...

Then explain the message of the gospel. Remember that you have three different gospel sharing tools to help you:

1. SOMETHINGAMAZING.NET
2. THE GOSPEL ACROSTIC
3. LIFEIN6WORDS.COM

#4 WHY DOES GOD LET BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

Search the Bible

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

Apply the Truth Personally

As you make your way through the four Bible verses below, stop, verse-by-verse, and discuss these three simple questions in your small group:

- What does this say about God?
- What does this say about troubles?
- What difference does this make in real life?

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.
Psalm 46:1

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.
Psalm 56:8

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1:7

So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.
1 Peter 5:6-7

The worst thing that's ever happened, happened to the best person who ever lived.

Draw a sketch and write a caption that depicts your reaction to this statement.

Listen to Others Deeply

Share the video "Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen? You can find the clip on YouTube at somethingamazing.net/why. Pray for the person you're going to share it with, and then follow up.

Remember to be sensitive as you approach people who may be hurting badly, or may be angry at God. Once you get a pulse on where they're at, you can decide whether it's a time to just comfort someone in pain or a time to explore this deeper theological topic with them.

Ask questions like...

- What did you think of the video?
- Have you ever wondered about this question before?
- What's your theory about why the world is so messed up?
- Why doesn't God just wipe away everything bad?
- I've heard it said that if God wiped away all evil, we would all be wiped away too. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- Have you ever been mad at God?
- Do you have the kind of relationship with God that you can go to Him with your anger or pain?

If they just need to be comforted, say something like, "I don't understand, but I'm so sorry and I'm here."

Talk About the Gospel

Say something like...

Did you know that God wants the kind of intimate, personal relationship with you where you can always come to Him with your anger and pain?

Then explain the message of the gospel. Share how Jesus identifies with our suffering, because He suffered too. Explain what the Bible says about how, in the end, God's going to make things right because of what Jesus did on the cross.

#5 WHAT MAKES FOR GOOD RELATIONSHIPS?

NAME THAT MOVIE

Movies give us a window into all kinds of relationships. Couples, friends, siblings. Can you name the movie that features each of these pairs? (Some may have more than one correct answer.)

Lois & Clark _____

Westley & Buttercup _____

Charlie & Sam _____

Ron & Harry _____

Beca & Jesse _____

Timon & Pumbaa _____

Jack & Rose _____

Kat & Patrick _____

Winnie & Christopher _____

Katniss & Peeta _____

Han & Leia _____

Cosette & Marius _____

Sam & Frodo _____

Elizabeth & Jane _____

Tony & Pepper _____

Ted & Bill _____

Edward & Bella _____

Jake & Elwood _____

Scout & Dill _____

Rick & Ilsa _____

LOVE LOOKS LIKE

Love can look different to different people. What makes you feel loved? Rank your top five.

- ☐ Time
- ☐ Trust
- ☐ Gifts
- ☐ Helping
- ☐ Chemistry
- ☐ Loyalty
- ☐ Encouragement
- ☐ Romance
- ☐ Compliments
- ☐ Flowers & Chocolates
- ☐ Forgiveness
- ☐ Unselfishness
- ☐ Touch
- ☐ Caring
- ☐ Puppies
- ☐ Other _____

SEARCH THE BIBLE

1 Corinthians 13:4-7: *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.*

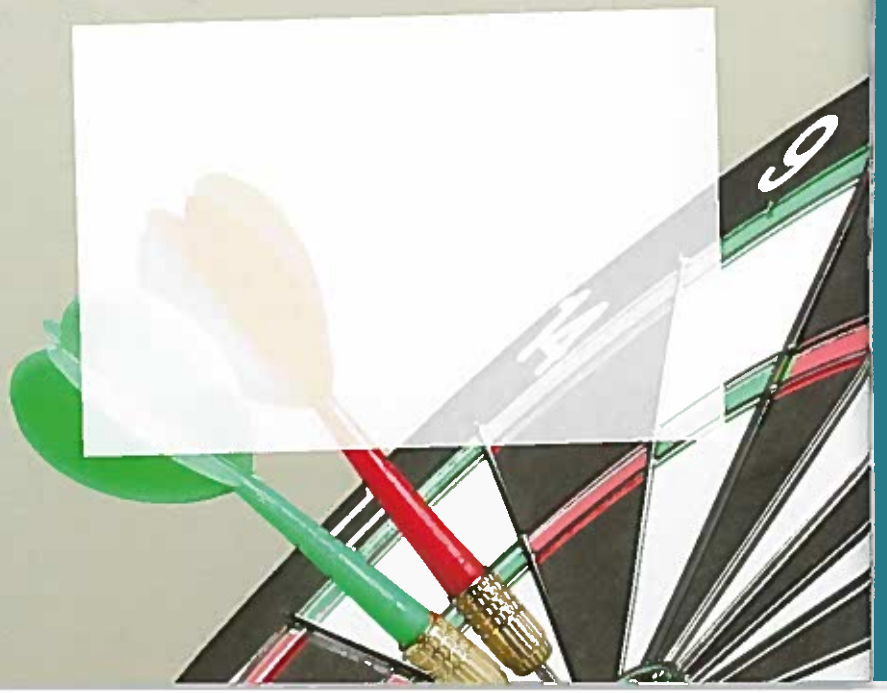
Romans 5:8: *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*

Apply the Truth Personally

Do I really believe God loves me? Not just if I perform, if I serve Him, or if I do what's right.

God doesn't love you "if"...He doesn't love you "because"... He loves you...Period.

Write a note to God. Bask in His unconditional love for you and thank Him for it.



Listen to Others Deeply

Share the *Salt* video "What Makes for Good Relationships?" You can find this YouTube video at the following link: somethingamazing.net/relationships. Pray for the person you want to share with, then follow up with real conversation.

Ask questions like:

- What did you think of the video?
- What do you think makes for a good relationship?
- What do **you** do when your relationships bring pain?
- Have you ever experienced a relationship where even if again and again you let someone down, they would still always be there for you?

Talk About the Gospel

Say something like...

Can I tell you about someone you can turn to for love, acceptance, comfort and hope when your human relationships let you down?

Then explain God's unconditional love for them and walk them through the message of the gospel.

"YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH." —JESUS

SALT

CREATING THIRST

Salt. It seasons, it preserves, it makes us thirsty.

As Christians, we're called to be salt in this world—to make others aware of their own spiritual thirst, so that they seek out the life-giving water of Jesus Christ.

Provide that touch of salt that sparks spiritual conversation. Get ready for relevant, authentic, relational, peer-to-peer, spiritual conversations that hold out Jesus' message of hope and grace.

USD $1.99
RELIGION/ Christian Ministry/ Youth
RELIGION/ Christian Ministry/ Evangelism

ISBN 978-0-9857352-6-5
50199>
9 780985 735265

D2S
DARE 2 SHARE
dare2share.org