

Verse of the Month Devotional

July

*You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor,
how shall it be seasoned?*

It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

Matthew 5:13

Thoughts on the verse:

Salt was a necessary preservative back when Jesus first spoke these words. With salt, meat could be preserved and not spoil, and otherwise tasteless foods could become a savory meal. Jesus was chief in sharing stories that ordinary people could relate to, and there is so much to be learned in the simplicity of the gospel. Let's answer the question: What if salt loses its flavor? He tells us in plain terms, it is good for nothing. Can you imagine being good for nothing? What a hopeless cause! So then what does it mean to be salty, to be full of flavor and seasoned? To have the word of God ready at your hand, in any situation. To be ready to speak Truth and light and love into any situation, To keep something precious from spoiling with the right preservative, and to make the blandest meal become a gift of nourishment.

Prayer:

Father, help us to be the salt in the world that needs it so desperately today. Help us to know Your Word and Your Truth so clearly that we can speak a word in season to every person that comes across our path. Thank You for the simplicity of the gospel, and how tangible You make Your Kingdom to each and every one of us. May we speak words of Truth in Your love, and may we bring life and use to every child You call Your own. Strengthen us to know You more and more, and help us to hear and live in that Still, Small Voice that guides us in to all truth and ultimately changes the world. Help us to not compromise where Your Word is so clear to stand firm, and to listen in those times we are unsure of how much salt to bring to each situation. Truly, You are the Lord of every situation! Help us to follow You through each moment and to be found full of flavor every day, in Jesus' name.

Action:

Spend a few minutes reflecting on your life and search your heart for areas where you may have lost your salty flavor. Is it compromise? Conviction? A bad habit from exhaustion? Whatever the situation, confess it here and now and ask God to renew your heart and strength to be full of flavor again. Replay each situation in your mind, and instead of shame or condemnation, rehearse how you would love to redo that scenario if you had the chance, and breathe redemption and hope in until the shame has no more room. Purpose in your heart to salt the next situation with all the flavor you need, with the help of that Perfect Still, Small Voice.

Notes: