

# Season **with** Salt

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## ***2019 Leap of Faith***

User's Manual



# Introducing Leap of Faith

Welcome to Vineyard's 2019 Leap of Faith (LOF)! This manual will serve as a helpful reference for engaging in this community-wide season of faith-building as we intentionally go deeper with God. This is our sixth Leap of Faith (LOF) together at Charlottesville Vineyard Church and we're excited to take the leap with you!

Leap of Faith is a 6-week, community-wide, faith-building experience intended to help the entire church family take a collective step forward in trusting and living out the ways of God. At the heart of LOF are regular prayer and faith-stretching practices that we do as a family, collectively digging deeper for a short-season, with the benefit of long-term growth.

**Prayer** during LOF centers on seeking God for his provision. It happens at a few different levels— for ourselves, our Five and our church family. Together, we seek God's intervention in ways that extend beyond our limited human capacities.

**Faith-stretching practices** during LOF are intended for our own personal growth and the mutual encouragement and growth of our community. As more of us participate, we demonstrate our care for one another and for God in very practical ways, which serves to encourage and build the faith of those around us.

We're excited to step into this season with all of you. We're trusting God will accomplish good work in our church family and we encourage you to participate as much as you can during these 6 weeks.

Continue reading this manual for more the details.

## Theme: Season with Salt

Every Leap of Faith has a theme to it. Typically this includes both a sermon series and some community-wide challenge (see page 12) that ties into our theme. Our theme this year is Season with Salt.

Too much salt and you ruin a meal. Not enough and, let's be honest, it tastes bland. When you get the right amount, it wakes up a dish, bringing out all the vibrant flavors you want to taste! So, what does it mean when Jesus tells us that he wants us to be the salt of the earth?

In his sermon on the mount (Matthew, chapters 5-7), Jesus preaches to a crowd about the quality of life he offers and invites his followers to live. The first metaphor he uses to describe those following him is salt. Salt not only brings vibrancy to food, but it actually sustains life. Jesus encourages those listening to shake some salt on the world around them... to bring that vibrancy and life-sustaining message of Jesus with them wherever they go.

His next metaphor is of light. What good is it, he says, if it is hidden? What good is it if it is not shared with the world around us? If we fail to share that light or shake that salt for others... then we've lost our usefulness.

During this Leap of Faith, we want to refill our salt shakers and increase the saltiness of our church family! We hope to see all of us take steps closer to the vision Jesus has for his church... to season the

world with his message of hope... to flavor the earth with his loving touch. How can our lives bring vibrancy and life to the world around us? That's exactly what we'll be exploring in this six-week Leap of Faith.

## Leap of Faith Practices

Our community wide LOF centers around the practice of prayer... focused and intentional prayer. However, there are a couple other practices that bring fullness to our faith experience during the LOF season. Below is a quick summary of those practices followed by more detailed explanation and practical steps for each.

1. Focused prayer and fasting
  - a. For God to do something big in our personal lives
  - b. For God to do something big in our church family
  - c. For God to do something big for our Five (5 people we're praying for)
2. Small group engagement
3. Community-wide challenge

### Practice 1 - Focused Prayer and Fasting

Several years ago, we learned of other church families around the country engaging in this significantly impactful idea—that cooperating together as a whole church to ask/seek God for new things in their own lives and in their church had a lot of power! God was answering some pretty bold and meaningful prayers.

Makes sense, right? After all, there are such stories in scripture and it was Jesus who promised that when two or more of us agree about anything we ask for, it will be done! It's really one of the many wonderful things about Jesus... he wants to meet our needs. He looks forward to hearing from us and encourages us to be persistent with our requests.

*You do not have, because you do not ask. (James 4:2, ESV)*

*"Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And the door is opened to everyone who knocks. You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him."* (Matthew 7:7-11)

*"I also tell you this: If two of you agree down here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you."* (Matthew 18:19)

*"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."* (Matthew 21:22)

*"You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, because the work of the Son brings glory to the Father. Yes, ask anything in my name, and I will do it!"* (John 14:13-14)

Pretty remarkable, isn't it? Jesus actually wants us to come to God with specific needs and ask persistently for him to answer.

Big prayers lead to big answers. King Hezekiah did this when he fell gravely ill. 2 Kings 20 tells the story of Hezekiah, who became so sick that God sent a prophet (Amoz) to tell him to get ready to die. That was really hard news. Instead of writing his succession plan and preparing his estate, Hezekiah cried out to God for healing (big prayer). The scripture tells us that God heard his request and, speaking through another prophet (Isaiah), he added 15 years to his life (big answer).

Whoa! That's huge! Should we model our prayer life after Hezekiah? Should we take Jesus at his words about seeking him? Or, is it selfish of us to want good stuff from God? It sounds like we're expecting God to serve us. Aren't we supposed to serve him instead?

Well... this seems to be the way we've been shaped to think about and relate to God in the modern Church, strongly influenced by contemporary culture's infatuation with meritocracy. However, this attitude is not very consistent with the way God wants to relate to His people (think of grace).

Take, for instance, what Jeremiah writes about God's relationship to His people in ancient Israel:  
*"I will make an everlasting covenant with them: **I will never stop doing good to them**, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me. **I will rejoice in doing them good** and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul. (Jeremiah 32:40-41)*

Then what Paul has to say about this attitude to the Greek philosophers of his day:  
*"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And **he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything**. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. (Acts 17:24-25)*

While it is commendable and good to want to respond to God's loving generosity through service & worship, it's also good to remember that God is doing just fine. He doesn't really **need** anything from any of us. In fact, Jeremiah and Paul both emphasize the fact that God is the one who wants to give good things to us! Not the other way around.

When Jesus tells us to "*ask for anything in my name*," he's encouraging us to look for whatever God is already engaged in, then pray for his will to be done. So, if God has already been working on releasing you from bitterness, but it's been slow going... pray for a big breakthrough there. If God has been urging you to get out of credit card debt, then pray in that direction. If God has been giving you faith for healing in some aspect of your life or healing a broken relationship, go for it... ask for that in Jesus' name.

During Leap of Faith, we rally as a community to pray with this perspective in mind for 6 weeks and then take a breather until the same time next year, recognizing that there are limits to our collective ability to sustain more concerted efforts for big faith.

We've found that there have been some pretty astonishing results when we come together in this way. Six years ago, during Lent, we held our first ever Leap of Faith. And, like other friends who've done these, we found that time to be super encouraging and faith building. Over the years, as we have committed ourselves to praying daily for **big things for self and our Five**, we heard/witnessed stories in our own community like the following:

- *My Five - [We] had one of our neighbors on our list and have been praying consistently for her for over 8 years. We had the opportunity to support her through a very difficult fight against cancer a year ago. Then, during LOF, some folks from Vineyard helped her with a house project as part of our Barn-raising. It's been so great to come alongside her and see our community rally as well. During LOF, we noticed an uptick in her readiness to talk at a spiritual level and after years of invitation, she decided to join us for Easter!*
- *My Five - I was able to have some great conversations with them. All of my five attended church on Easter, three at the Vineyard and the other two in their community. I do believe that God is moving in each of their lives. For two I have seen a stronger commitment to faith and for two others seeking hearts.*
- *Personal - The Lord has so met my need to live a more healthy lifestyle with grace to radically change my diet to meet my current health needs. Believing for great breakthrough with confirmation expected in June with next blood work. The Lord has also helped me to use what I have learned to share in such a positive way with [people] that I work with each day.*
- *I prayed for a pain-free and uncomplicated birth for [my child] and praise God it was! It was a beautifully redemptive experience after two difficult births... and I was so so grateful for the peace and joy I felt during the birth.*
- *[My father-in-law] had prostate cancer diagnosed back in March and had surgery March 15th. His urologist at his follow-up appointment said that in 30 years of practicing he had never seen someone have such a great recovery without any complications. A huge praise and answer to prayer.*
- *We were worried about being able to cover our son's college costs – the shortcoming in budget was covered by a scholarship.*
- One family was strapped with some financial strains. After engaging in 40 days of prayer, they began to see some of the financial strain open up in very practical ways.
  - A Fed-Ex employee offered to charge the employee rate for what would have been a very costly shipment.
  - The trunk of their car stopped working and they were told it would be hundreds of dollars to fix. By the time they got around to getting it fixed, the trunk just started working again!
- *I prayed for deeper more meaningful friendships and God answered my prayer with two friends I meet with regularly.*
- Another family was also tight on budget and couldn't make a really important work related trip due to limited funds. God provided some unexpected help... an unsolicited gift was given that got them just enough to make the trip.
- *We prayed for mitigation of some acid reflux symptoms my wife was having - in the past when these symptoms occurred it was an indication that she would be in a lot of distress (mental and physical) for the next week or two. This was basically the first time I can recall that was cut short.*
- One family was praying for the timing of their pending adoption. The country they had submitted paperwork to suddenly stopped allowing adoptions from the United States. After praying and waiting to hear about their status, this family discovered that they were one of the

last submissions to be allowed to continue on with the adoption process.

- My Five... *"I've been praying for one of my Five to experience more of God, and she's been experiencing joy like no other."*
- *I started praying for a dependable job and house... Then during that time I remember saying to someone at church that I feel like the devil is really trying to take me out of this leap of faith and we prayed about it... looking back over the past year, I really can see some great God answers to those prayers. I have a wonderful roommate, we pray together and the friendship has grown and we both have our strengths that we bring to the relationship. As for the job, I also got a job right after LOF that allowed me to pay things off and get a savings started. It has also made it possible to pay a huge chunk towards a bill that will be a huge weight off my back and make it possible to find a better job.*

Additionally, as a **church family**, we have rallied together to ask God for some big things.

In 2013, we asked him to provide us a way to get back into Charlottesville proper... to be present in the heart of the Charlottesville area. We asked him to provide us with some funding to jump-start any move we might make and provide seed money for other activities that would enable us to be a Jesus-centered presence. God answered in some big ways!

- Through a rather inconspicuous new parent/student tour of the Jackson Via school (in the City of Charlottesville), a spiritual conversation ensued. By the end of the tour, the Principal was encouraging us to genuinely consider exploring Jackson-Via as a possibility. She proposed a financial arrangement that would get us over the budget threshold and allow us to make a move. It became clear that God was opening the door wide for us to do church at Jackson-Via Elementary.
- Additionally, we estimated the cost of doing church in town (moving, equipment...etc), along with many of the activities we wanted to engage in to be a Jesus-centered presence, would run us approximately \$35,000. We asked God to speak to people about giving... and, did He ever! We raised \$42,000. This is a huge feat for a small church... God was clearly moving us forward!

In 2015, we asked God to help us get Nathan onto paid staff with Vineyard. In the middle of LOF, Nathan felt prompted by God to begin fundraising outside the Vineyard Church family. Within two months, he had raised over 2 years worth of funding for his position!

Just last year (2018), we asked God to help us support the other pastors in our church family that had given their strength, hearts and minds for years without our financial support. By the end of LOF, we had raised two years worth of stipend for three part-time staff positions!

God truly is a generous God... and he absolutely loves it when we trust in his generosity!

## Where do I start?

# For Yourself

### Ask God for something specific and significant in your personal life

What circumstances in your life would you love for God to address? If it helps, re-read the stories from above to help you determine where to take this faith-building experience for yourself. We want to encourage you, in the spirit of praying in God's name, to ask God to help you narrow your focus and identify things he wants you to seek. Some categories to consider: Emotional breakthroughs; Relational provision; Financial healthiness; Spiritual vitality; Other needs in your life right now?

So that's what we're talking about—something specific that, if God would be generous by doing this thing for you by the end of the Leap of Faith, you'd be pretty blown away and could only ascribe it to him.

But, ***what if it doesn't happen?*** If it's actually something you really care about, you're risking major disappointment! But risking being disappointed is a hallmark of actual faith. Isn't the point of faith that we take real things we actually care about to God, things we don't claim to be able to pull off on our own?

The reason to take this first step is to put yourself in a position to see that God is real; he actually listens to your prayers and he cares about you.

Now, again, that's no guarantee of anything. God can do whatever he wants. But he does *like* it when we ask him for things (Matthew 7:7-11). A Pastor friend of ours shares this: "For about 20 years of almost *daily* asking God to reveal Jesus to someone I really love, I didn't see a thing. And then I did—and it was pretty stunning. " Twenty years! That's persistence! So we need to figure out how to ask in faith and—as Matthew 7:7 says directly—*keep* asking... even if it doesn't happen right away. But let's agree together that these six weeks will be a place to start!

So, before we go on, let's do it! What good thing are you hoping God would do in your life before these six weeks are done?

Here is some guidance on sorting this out...

1. Decide to go for it... to ask God for something great (Mt 7.7)
2. Identify what that big thing is (1 John 5.14-15)
3. Have faith that your prayers matter (James 1.6 & 5.16)
4. Trust that God cares about you and what you hope for (Mt 7.9-11)
5. Persist in prayer (Luke 11.5-8)
6. Be thankful, regardless of how God responds (Phil 4.4-7)

**My personal Leap of Faith prayer:**

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Now... go ahead and share that with others. Ask them to share as well. As you pray your way through LOF, pray for each other and those big asks!

## For Your Five

### Daily ask God to bless your Five during our Leap of Faith season

Our thought is that each person in our church knows at least 5 local people who, best as we can tell, aren't experiencing much from or engaging with God. These might be neighbors, co-workers, family or classmates.

Largely what we do is pray for these folks that they would experience the power and love of God, and even come to follow him themselves—hopefully among a great community of faith! Our theory is: if your impression is that they aren't experiencing much from God, most likely they have no one, or very few people, praying for them. So perhaps *you* can offer them that great blessing!

Here are some ideas for how you might **pray** for them.

- 1) Pray that the Father would draw them to encounter Jesus.** (John 6:44)
- 2) Bind any spirit that prevents them from knowing Jesus.** (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- 3) Pray that you or other followers of Jesus will cross their paths and enter into healthy, encouraging relationships with them.** (Matthew 9:38)
- 4) Pray they would become a follower of Jesus.**
- 5) Pray for an opportunity and for the courage to invite them to Vineyard.**

Take a few minutes now to pray - ask God to put 5 people on your mind - folks he wants you to be praying for and loving on, especially during this LOF season.

## So... who are your Five?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

\* There will be Pray for Your Five cards available as well

## For Your Church Community

### Daily ask God to for a specific big ask for Charlottesville Vineyard Church

This one is pretty straight-forward. We want to see our increased saltiness as a church family result in changed lives for those who are presently far from God.

Jesus made it abundantly clear to his earliest followers... once he was no longer with them, it became their job to go out and make disciples of all nations (Mt 28). He told them to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1.8). In other words, go shake that salt on the rest of the world!

Won't you pray with us that some beautiful fruit would come of our presence in Charlottesville? That this vibrant, Jesus-centered church family would season others with God's tangible love, so they could taste and see that God is good.

### So, we want to encourage everyone to pray daily for the following:

Ask God that through the ministry of the Vineyard Church family, **10 people would come to faith** in God in 2019, and an additional **10 people would renew their trust** in God after a season away. Additionally, pray that we would get a head start on this through the Leap of Faith season.



**We'll be doing our best to track these two throughout the year. As you hear of and even participate in such a beautiful decision, please do let one of our staff leaders know. We'll tell the stories as they emerge!**

## Practice 2 - Small Group Engagement

Small groups are such an amazing way to get and remain connected to your church body. Here are some quick stats for you (from factsandtrends.net):

Sixty-three percent of regular [small] group attenders say they intentionally spend time with other believers in order to help them grow in their faith. Only 22 percent of those not in a group say the same. And 73 percent of group attenders say they are intentionally putting their spiritual gifts to use serving God and others, compared to 42 percent of non-attenders.

Being in a group also impacts people's daily lives. Group members feel closer to God (69 percent), understand the Bible better (74 percent), trust God more (66 percent), and become more loving in their relationships (48 percent) [more than those not in groups].

Pretty compelling reasons! We find great friendship, support, encouragement, healing, and growth come from investing in a small group. So, if you're not currently participating in a small group or you're loosely connected to a group, we want to encourage you to jump in, especially during our Leap of Faith season.

Here is what we'll be doing:

### In our groups...

Take time to **share what we're praying for** and to actually **pray for each other** and the big hopes each of us are asking God for.

**"Shake some salt" on one of your Five.** If we all have our Five identified, then each group has 40 or more people to choose from. Work together to find someone to bless and team up to bless her/him/them. Don't forget to let them know why we're doing this.

Consider taking some time to **focus our bible studies on the mission of God** and our call to participate.

Additionally, as God does great things during our Leap of Faith season, we hope our small groups will be a welcoming environment for the sharing of stories and encouragement of one another.

## Practice 3 - Community-wide challenge

Every Leap of Faith, we attempt to do something related to our theme that engages the entire church family. It's a great way to build a stronger sense of belonging while increasing faith as we take a leap for God. This year, we want that challenge to encourage all of us to take further steps to be salt to the world.

Sticking with the salt metaphor...

### Shake some salt...

**On your neighbors** - Aim to share a meal or coffee with at least two of your neighbors during our LOF season. Pray for that time and look to see what God is up to in their lives. Take opportunities, should they arise, to engage in spiritual conversation.

**On your Five** - Aim to invite at least three of your five to worship with us at Easter

**On our city** - Plan to attend the Nehemiah Action, urging our city and county to make way for people to have a roof over their heads in response to our present affordable housing crisis. April 11, 6pm at CHS (mark it in your calendar as you read this).

If you would, let us know when you've decided to take a step and what that step is. We'd love to hear about everyone's efforts toward Seasoning with Salt! Email Jim ([jim@cvillevineyard.org](mailto:jim@cvillevineyard.org)), or share it with your small group leader or another pastor.

## In Summary

We're excited for you! You've done a valuable thing—you've crystallized in your heart and on paper how you're going to ask God to move in your life. Having done that, let us encourage you to do a few things in order to take advantage of the Leap of Faith in reference to the things you've just written down and read through.

### **First, ask God for these things every day during the Leap of Faith.**

As you ask, he might speak to you about what you're asking for. Obviously, pay attention to that! But, in the spirit of Matthew 7, God gives good gifts to people who "keep on asking" for them!

### **Second, tell someone else what you wrote down and ask *him or her* to pray for you about those things too.**

And it would be neighborly of you if you prayed for them as well! Jesus says he's uniquely present and at work when two or more people come before him in prayer (Matthew 18:20). Your chances of seeing something happen increase when someone else is praying too—and they might even have more faith than you do, so you can benefit from their faith while you're at it!

### **Third, when you see answers to these things, tell me, by emailing Jim at [jim@cvillevineyard.org](mailto:jim@cvillevineyard.org).**

This is a super-powerful and often-overlooked spiritual principle: when God answers our prayers, the proper response is to *tell* as many people as we can—most particularly "in the sanctuary," where

God's people come to worship. Let me run just a few psalms by you that make this point:

Psalm 107:2—*“Has the Lord redeemed (done something good for) you? Then speak out! Tell others he has saved you from your enemies.”*

Psalm 108:3 (and Psalm 57:9)—*“I will thank you, Lord, in front of all the people.”*

Psalm 71:15-16—*“All day long I will proclaim your saving power, for I am overwhelmed by how much you have done for me. I will praise your mighty deeds, O Sovereign Lord. I will tell everyone that you alone are just and good.”*

Psalm 73:28—*“I will tell everyone about the wonderful things you do.”*

Psalm 40:10—*“I have not kept this good news hidden in my heart; I have talked about your faithfulness and your saving power. I have told everyone in the great assembly of your unfailing love and faithfulness.”*

The psalms also teach us that, if we *don't* do this, if we don't speak out about actual things God does for us, then those things will fade in our memory and we'll ultimately *forget* them! It seems that God's one central purpose in the Bible is that His “name” would be known throughout the earth. His “name” here is, essentially, “the God who does great things for those who call on his name.” (One representative scripture would be Habakkuk 2:14—*But the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD—everyone would know that he does great stuff for people who trust him!—as the waters cover the sea*). So when we tell others—even the whole congregation on occasion—about whatever great thing God has done for us, we're then participating in His ultimate work on earth!

So, *whenever* God does something wonderful for you, always tell all your friends, and always tell *the leaders in your church community*. We want to know how to pray for you and how the Lord is answering prayers in our community-- feel free to shoot Jim an email, call (434.321.8463), text or message.

### **Finally, consider fasting in some way.**

You might have noticed that when people really needed God to move in the Bible, they almost always fasted. Consider the following...

#### What does fasting do?

Fasting tells God and our own spirit that we really are desperate for God to meet some need or hope that we have.

Though fasting—in any fashion (and we'll talk about some options in a minute)—is, by definition, hard, it's actually meant to be a joyous opportunity. Suddenly we're really serious about something with God; we're really expecting him to come through; we aren't just playing around. That can often be exhilarating!

#### What are options for fasting?

Well, first off, fasting often involves abstention from food in some way. In shorter fasts, that can be a total abstention from food. These are usually called “water fasts,” because water is the only thing going into us. For the most part, I don't recommend these at any length beyond a week's time, because after that, health problems can ensue. (Clearly God can speak and call you into anything—but I'd just be aware of the risks if you water fast for more than a week, and be in good touch with a doctor.)

Also, I do not recommend water fasts if you've ever suffered from an eating disorder. Those who've suffered from eating disorders historically have a difficult time separating this sort of fasting from the very motivation that drove them to the disorder, and thereby risk serious health problems. There are other great fasts that will do you a lot of good. If you've been in this situation, I ask that you pursue other types of fasting.

Other food-abstention fasts involve imposing some sort of conditions on our eating over a period of time. This can involve anything from giving up some beloved food item for a time (desserts being a popular favorite) to something more challenging, like the so-called "Daniel fast," which involves (as it did for Daniel in the biblical book bearing his name) abstaining from everything but vegetables.

For longer fasts, I've sometimes done a "one meal a day" fast. It's pretty much what it sounds like. The key is to actually eat a smaller meal than you normally would at the time, and to make that "it" for the day.

People often pursue "juice fasts." Again, this would customarily apply to shorter fasts, but it's just like a water fast, except you're allowed to drink juice, which will keep your blood sugar up and actually allow you to function at near-normal capacity.

#### Are there any non-food-related options?

You bet! Fasting from Netflix (or any other streaming media) is a popular choice for folks who aren't fasting from food.

These can really involve, under God's direction, doing without anything that feels costly to give up for a season. I've heard about fasts from criticism or from magazines, blogs, social media or even... dare I say... screen time!

The point of fasting is that, under God's direction, we're feeling desperate for something and we direct that desperation toward God. It's just hard to truly be desperate for God and what he might do for us when our bellies are full and all our needs are abundantly provided for.

#### What does it mean to fast "for" something?

If you fast, I'd encourage you to let God know, frequently, what it is you're fasting for which, I'd think, would at least tie into what you're asking God to do for you, your Five and our church family during this Leap of Faith.

That's it! Thanks for taking the time to read through the manual and for participating with your church family in this great adventure!

**Here's to one of the great 6-week stretches of life for our church family!**



## Leap of Faith: Season with Salt Refrigerator Summary Sheet

**Pray daily (and consider fasting) for:**

**My personal Leap of Faith prayer:**

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**My Five:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Our church:**

Ask God that through the ministry of the Vineyard Church family, **10 people would come to faith** in God in 2019, and an additional **10 people would renew their trust** in God after a season away. Additionally, pray that we would get a head start on this through the Leap of Faith season.

**In our small groups:**

Take time to **share what we're praying for** and to actually **pray for each other** and the big hopes each of us are asking God for.

**"Shake some salt" on one of your Five.** If we all have our Five identified, then each group has 40 or more people to choose from. Work together to find someone to bless and team up to bless her/him/them. Don't forget to let them know why we're doing this.

Consider taking some time to **focus our bible studies on the mission of God** and our call to participate.

**Take the Challenge - Shake some salt:**

**On your neighbors** - Aim to share a meal or coffee with at least two of your neighbors during our LOF season. Pray for that time and look to see what God is up to in their lives. Take opportunities, should they arise, to engage in spiritual conversation.

**On your Five** - Aim to invite at least three of your five to worship with us at Easter

**On our city** - Plan to attend the Nehemiah Action, urging our city and county to make way for people to have a roof over their heads in response to our present affordable housing crisis. April 11, 6pm at CHS (mark it in your calendar as you read this).

**Tell your stories:** To your small group, to our pastors... let them be heard!