Preschool–Grade 5

Salt and Light Craft

Not under a bushel, but on a candlestick · Matthew 5:13–16 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



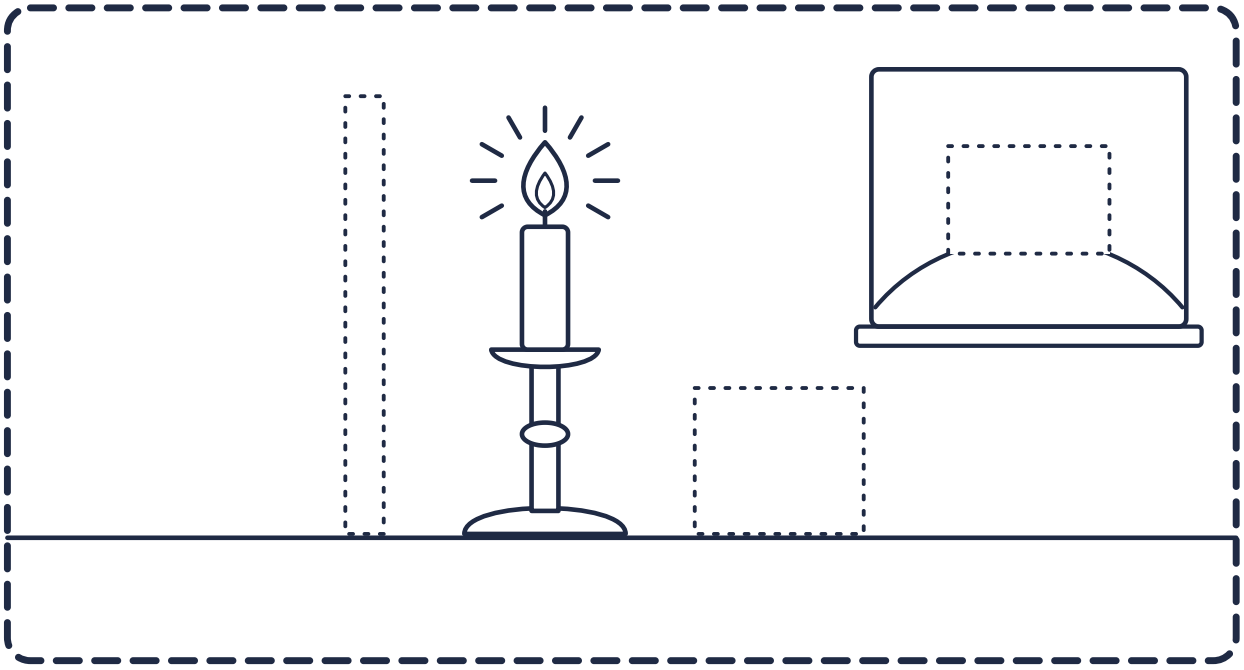
Harder

Both levels are a card showing the inside of a house: a white candle with an orange flame and yellow lines of light on a yellow candlestick, a light brown floor and a window with a light blue sky and a green hill. A brown paper bushel folds over the candle to hide it; here it is opened and set aside, so the candle gives light unto all that are in the house (Matthew 5:15). Medium (left): the card. Harder (right): the same with a bowl of salt on the floor (5:13) and a city set on the hill in the window (5:14).

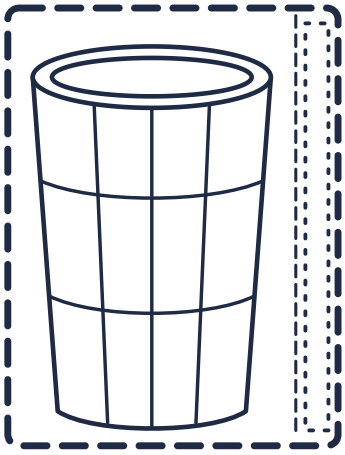
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: floor light brown, candlestick yellow, flame orange, light lines yellow,
window sky light blue, hill green. Leave the candle, the wall and the dotted spots white.



bushel: color it brown, front and back.
Fold the tab on the thin line;
glue only the dotted tab.

Ye are the light of the world.
A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Matthew 5:14 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the bushel and the verse strip. Glue the bushel's tab on the dotted strip next to the candlestick. The two dotted spots in the window and on the floor are only for the harder level.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level



city: color it tan, its gate brown



bowl of salt: bowl brown, salt white

How to add the salt and the city

1. Make the card from page 2 first.
2. Color the city tan with a brown gate. Color the bowl brown and leave the salt white. Cut out the city and the bowl of salt on the dashed lines.
3. Glue the bowl of salt on the dotted spot on the floor, to the right of the candlestick.
4. Glue the city on the dotted spot on top of the hill in the window.
5. Tell it: Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13). Point to the salt. "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid" (5:14). Point to the city, then to the candle.

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vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/salt-and-light-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), crayons or markers in light brown, yellow, orange, light blue, green and brown, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a tan crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the cards, bushels and verse strips ahead of time, and fold each bushel's tab.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and fold the tabs. Kids color the card and the bushel. Then you glue on the bushel's tab and the verse strip. Kids fold the bushel over the candle and open it again.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, glue the bushel's tab and glue the verse strip. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card, then color and cut out the bowl of salt and the city from page 3 and glue them on their dotted spots (Matthew 5:13–14). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the floor light brown, the candlestick yellow, the flame orange, the light lines around the flame yellow, the sky in the window light blue and the hill green. Leave the candle, the wall and the dotted spots white.
2. **Color the bushel** brown on the front. Turn it over and color the back brown too.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the bushel and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Glue the bushel:** fold its tab on the thin line, then open it again. Put glue on the back of the tab only. Press the tab on the dotted strip next to the candlestick, so the bushel lies to the left of the candle.
5. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, and read it together.
6. **Tell it:** fold the bushel over the candle. Can you see the light? Men do not light a candle and put it under a bushel (Matthew 5:15). Open the bushel and set it aside: the candle is on a candlestick, "and it giveth light unto all that are in the house" (5:15). "Let your light so shine before men" (5:16).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Where was Jesus when He taught this? *(He went up into a mountain and taught His disciples, Matthew 5:1–2)*
- What did Jesus say we are of the earth? *(The salt, 5:13)*
- What happens to salt that has lost its savour? *(It is good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot, 5:13)*
- What cannot be hid? *(A city that is set on an hill, 5:14)*
- Fold the bushel over the candle. Do people do that? *(No, they put it on a candlestick, 5:15)*
- Open it again. Who does the candle give light to? *(All that are in the house, 5:15)*
- When people see our good works, who do they glorify? *(Our Father which is in heaven, God, 5:16)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: ye** means you; **savour** means taste; **trodden under foot** means walked on; **set on an hill** means built on top of a hill; **bushel** means a basket or bowl used to measure grain; **candlestick** means a stand that holds a candle up high; **glorify** means praise and honor; **your Father which is in heaven** means God.
- **What the Bible says:** Jesus spoke of salt, a city set on an hill, and a candle on a candlestick, not under a bushel (Matthew 5:13–15). He doesn't describe the house, the candlestick or the bushel. The house, the window, the bowl, the shapes and the colors are the craft's simple picture of His words.
- **No one is drawn, and never Jesus:** the template shows only the house, the candle, the bushel and (harder level) the salt and the city.
- **The tab:** glue only the back of the tab, not the bushel, so it folds over the candle and opens again. If it sticks, press a little paper between the bushel and the card until the glue dries.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, fold the tabs and glue the bushels on for them. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child hide the candle and open it again while you read Matthew 5:15.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free salt and light lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/salt-and-light.

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