

ABSOLUTE

YEAR 1, 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

In this game, players will do their absolute best not to get a mouth full of salt. In advance of the night, you will need to prepare small bags containing a teaspoon each of sugar, salt or a mixture of salt and sugar. You will also need a target and objects to throw (for example: a bocce set, corn hole boards or horseshoes). Set the target at a considerable distance from players (at least 30 feet). Players will take turns tossing their balls [bean bags, horseshoes] toward the target. The goal is throw accurately and hit the target.

Before starting the game, ask students which they would prefer to have to eat in one bite—a spoonful of salt or a spoonful of sugar. *Most will obviously prefer the sugar.* Hold up two of the bags and ask students to tell you which contains salt and which contains sugar. Explain that in life and with God there are absolute truths. The world may tell us that there are gray areas but with God, it's black or white. Sometimes in life we might not very easily see the absolute truth, but there is a huge difference between salt and sugar. When you mix in salt with sugar, it might look the same, but it won't taste the same. We don't want to get to the end of our lives and find that though the world told us the grains in our spoon were plenty sweet, what we have is salty and certainly not what we had been promised.

Instruct students that their goal is to hit the absolute truth by aiming at the target. If their ball touches the target, they will be rewarded with a teaspoon of sugar. If their ball comes within two feet of the target, but does not touch it, they will get a sugar/salt mixture. If their ball is not within two feet of the target, they will receive a teaspoon of salt.

When all have made their play, pass out their rewards. Have students all pour on their tongue at the same time. A teaspoon of salt won't hurt, but it might be kind to have some water nearby.