

Learn of Me

NEW TESTAMENT

PUTTING CHRIST FIRST OBJECT LESSON

Matthew 8-9; Mark 2-5

There are many times in the New Testament in which Jesus invited others to follow him and leave behind what they were doing before. In Mark 3:31-35, Christ taught that whoever does the will of God is considered his “brother, sister, and mother.” We must strive to do the will of God and follow Christ, which means putting him first in our lives. Here is a fun object lesson for kids of all ages to demonstrate the importance of putting the Savior first:

Credit for this idea goes to the Living Out Scripture blog.

Materials: ¾ cup of rice, clear jar, 7-10 larger objects (bouncy balls, rocks, shells, etc.), spoon, paper, pen

1. Read Mark 3:31-35 as a family. What is the will of God? What does it mean to follow Christ?
2. Come up with 7-10 things that we can do to put Christ first in our lives (prayer, service, scriptures, etc) and record them on the piece of paper. Then come up with 7-10 things you enjoy spending your time doing (video games, toys, reading, etc) and record these on the piece of paper as well.
3. Start scooping rice into the jar. With each scoop, name something from the list of things you enjoy spending your time on. Continue until all of the rice is in the jar.
4. Now add the larger objects into the jar. With each object, name something from the list of ways we put Christ first in our lives. Not all of the larger objects should fit into the jar.
5. Pour everything out of the jar and separate them.
6. This time, place the larger objects into the jar first. Again, with each object, name one thing we do to put Christ first.
7. Then start scooping the rice into the jar once all of the larger objects are inside. Again, with each scoop, name one thing you enjoy spending your time doing. Continue until all of the rice is in the jar. Point out that everything fit this time.
8. Talk about how this relates to putting Christ first. What happens when we make him a priority? What happens when we don't?

*You may need to experiment beforehand to see exactly what proportions of rice and objects you need to make it work.