

## Object Lessons

Object lessons are a lot like parables. Common everyday things are used to teach a lesson that has deeper spiritual meaning. Object lessons are fun to do, they are engaging, and they are easy to remember.

There are some things to keep in mind when you do an object lesson in Sunday school:

- Keep it simple.
- Have a clear biblical message.
- Involve the children in doing and interpreting the lesson.
- Always have a few Bible passages to look up and talk about. The passages should be carefully selected to drive the lesson home.

There are several ways to involve the children in doing object lessons. Here are some suggestions:

- Have the children prepare and present the lessons.
- Recruit volunteers to help you present the lesson. In fact, many object lessons can be designed around the children so that their active participation is necessary to make the lesson work. This can be a lot of fun for everyone if it is kept simple.
- Draw everyone into the discussion when the follow-up question is asked: "What do you think the lesson means?"
- Have everyone open their Bibles and find the relevant passages. Older children can help younger ones with this if necessary. Let volunteers read the passages aloud.

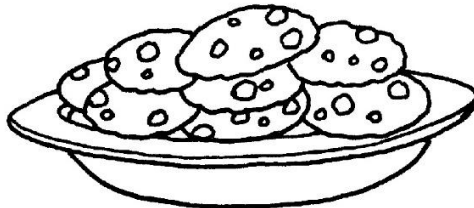
As a rule, object lessons should be short. In a Sunday school setting they are often used as start-up or wrap-up activities. In either case, ten to fifteen minutes is a good time frame to shoot for. The impact of a lesson can be lost if it drags on too long.

And one more thing. Always practice an object lesson before you do it with the children. Make sure it works the way you want it to.

### Every Good And Perfect Gift – James 1:17

#### Materials:

Gift wrap a package of cookies for the children.



#### Lesson:

Let the children unwrap the package. Question: Would they like to have a cookie? While people often cheat God, God does not cheat us. He gives us good gifts.

Questions: (1) What gifts does God give us every day? (2) What are the best gifts that God gives us? Make a list.

Have the children read a few of the following passages: Psalms 147; Proverbs 2:6; John 3:16; Acts 14:17; Romans 2:6-7; Romans 6:23; Romans 8:32; James 1:5 and 1:17-18.

Let the children summarize the lesson. Then enjoy the cookies!