

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.

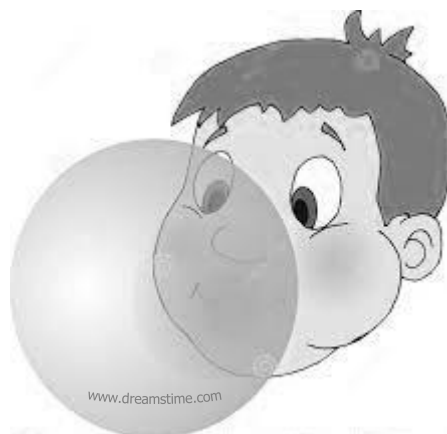
As a rule, object lessons should be short. In a Sunday school setting they are often used as start-up or wrap-up activities. In either case, ten to fifteen minutes is a good time frame to shoot for. The impact of a lesson can be lost if it drags on too long.

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.

Pride Goes Before Destruction! – Proverbs 16:18

Materials:

- Several cheap balloons. Bubble gum is a messy alternative!



Lesson:

Give each child a balloon. Have them blow it up without popping. Questions: What is your balloon full of? What kinds of things get us puffed up?

Read Isaiah 5:21; Romans 12:16; 1 Corinthians 8:2. Question: What are people "full of" in these passages?

Now have the children blow up their balloons until they pop. Cheer them on until the balloons break! Question: What happens if we get too puffed up?

Read Proverbs 16:18; 18:12; 29:23, and Isaiah 2:10-12. Question: What is the Biblical lesson for us?

Credit <http://freebiblelessons.net>