

WHAT COMES FIRST

Children discover that many things in life need to be completed in a logical order.

TOPICS:

Behavior, Child of God

MATERIALS:

Activity sheet for each child [ATTACHED]

Pencils or markers



DURATION:

Approximately 7 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print out an activity sheet for each child in class.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Have the children look at each picture and then circle the picture that they think should come first.

For example:

Children pray before going to bed

The train engine comes before the caboose

We put socks on before shoes

A baby crawls before he or she can walk

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

After the children have finished their activity pages, say, "There is a logical order for many of the things we do on a daily basis. Wouldn't it be silly to put our shoe on and then try to put our sock on over the shoe? It would be funny to see a baby walking before he or she could crawl. A train would not work as well if it was hooked up backwards."

"We also need to have God in the proper place in our life. Can anyone tell me what place God should have in our lives?" Wait for answers, then say, "That's right - God should have first place in our lives."

What Comes First?

Circle the picture that comes first.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Children learn that nothing should come between us and our love for God.

TOPICS:

Choices, Following God, Listening, Obedience

MATERIALS:

Picture of Jesus [ATTACHED]
Picture frame (Optional)
Various Objects (*toys, sports equipment, clothes/shoes, musical instruments, CD player, food or candy, etc.*)



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Print the picture of Jesus and place it in a picture frame or tape it to a piece of cardboard. The picture will need to be able to stand upright on top of a desk or table. Have all of the objects ready in a box where the kids will not be able to see what is inside. You will instruct the children to keep their eyes on Jesus, which will become more difficult as you continue to place items from the box in front of the picture.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Read Mark 12:30 from your Bible. Read the verse a couple more times and ask the children to repeat how we are to love God. Use hand gestures to signify heart, soul, mind and strength. Ask the children if anything should come between us and our love for God.

Show the picture of Jesus to the class and set it up on a table or desk in a location where everyone can see it. Tell the children that it is important for us to keep our eyes on Jesus as we go through our day. Instruct the kids to keep their eyes on the picture of Jesus as you continue to talk. Explain that many things will try to come between Jesus and us during our day. Remove items from the box, one by one, and place them in front of the picture of Jesus. Explain that the things that get between Jesus and us may not be bad, but we cannot allow these things to take first place in our lives, because that is reserved for God. We need to make sure that we keep Jesus in front of us at all times. Move the picture of Jesus in front of all the other items that were stacked in front of the picture.

Explain the ways in which we can keep Jesus first in our lives. (Prayer, reading the Bible, going to church/Sunday school, serving others, etc.)

Jesus



FRIENDS RUB OFF

Children see how friends, whether good or bad, can easily rub off on us.

TOPICS:

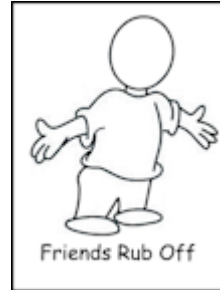
Behavior, Child of God, Friendship

MATERIALS:

Activity Sheet [ATTACHED]

No. 2 black pencil for each child

Cotton Balls, Handy Wipes for cleanup



DURATION:

Approximately 7 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print out the activity sheet and cut out one "Friends Rub Off" card for each child in class.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

During class, give each child a "Friends Rub Off" card, a pencil and a cotton ball. Tell the children to use the pencil to darkly color in a portion of the person on their card. After they are finished, you will have them rub their cotton ball over the "Friends Rub Off" card to see that the graphite has rubbed off on the cotton ball.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Our friends can have a big impact on the way we act - either good or bad. In other words, friends can rub off on us. We need to be careful to choose good friends that will help us grow up to do things that please God.



Friends Rub Off



Friends Rub Off



Friends Rub Off



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