

Activity: Bubbles and Balloons



Teaching Goal: Spend time on things that will last for eternity.

FAMILY TIME TRAINING

Scripture: Matthew 5:3-10 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Materials: Three balloons
Bubble solution and wand
Masking tape
Marker
Paper for making a list
Nametags

I. Lesson and discussion

✓ Words written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. ACTIVITY: Invite a volunteer to read Matthew 5:3-10 and make two lists: one list of what is blessed and a second list of the opposites of what is blessed. For example:

Poor in spirit (humility)	Pride
Grieve (caring)	Insensitive, hurtful
Meek (kind)	Harsh, mean
Righteousness (good choices)	Bad choices
Mercy	Hold a grudge
Pure in heart (assume the best)	Bad thoughts
Peacemakers	Start fights and arguments
Persecuted (picked on for doing right)	Lie or avoid doing what is right

Our first list includes actions, thoughts and words that God approves. Our second list includes actions, thoughts and words that God would not approve. Can you think of other items that God would or would not approve that we can add to our lists? Listen to answers..
Approve: Going to church. Giving to the poor. Serving others. Not approve: Bad words. Disrespect. Disobedience.

FAMILY TIME TRAINING

Blow up the three balloons. Write items from the first list...things God approves...on the balloons. Write on pieces of masking tape items from the second list...things God does not approve...and stick the tape around the bottle of bubbles.

Invite a volunteer to read Matthew 6:19-21. **Doing things that God approves is storing up treasures in heaven. Doing things that God does not approve are worthless and of no eternal value.** Divide into teams of two. One person wears a nametag labeled “earth” and the other wears a nametag labeled “heaven.” The person who is “earth” throws the person who is “heaven” a balloon representing an action that will last in eternity. Then “earth” blows bubbles and “heaven” tries to catch them but they all pop. **Only the balloons with what God blesses are in “heaven” because the bubbles from what God does not bless popped and were destroyed.**

B. APPLICATION: In the next few days, when you see an action God blesses, point it out and say, “There’s a balloon going to heaven!” When you see an action God does not bless, point them out and say, “There’s a bubble that is going to pop.”

II. Close in Prayer

III. Pass It On: Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.