



Multiplication

Best Use

Teach your kids the importance of multiplying their faith into others while, at the same time, giving them a little math lesson.

Value

This idea can help trigger meaningful dialogue about discipling others and helping them to mature in their journey with Jesus.

Advance Preparation

Gather your family and 20 rolls of pennies. Ask your kids: "Would you rather have all of these pennies (display all 20 rolls of pennies) or one penny doubled every day for two weeks?"

Exercise in Multiplication

Open one roll of pennies. Start showing them in piles the first four days of pennies then ask them to decide. "Would you rather have the ten dollars' worth of pennies or ten more days of doubled piles of pennies?"

- Day 1 1 penny
- Day 2 2 pennies
- Day 3 4 pennies
- Day 4 8 pennies
- Day 5 16 pennies
- Day 6 32 pennies
- Day 7 64 pennies
- Day 8 128 pennies
- Day 9 256 pennies
- Day 10 512 pennies (on this day you now have over \$10 in pennies total)
- Day 11 1024 pennies
- Day 12 2048 pennies
- Day 13 4096 pennies
- Day 14 8192 pennies (on this day you would now have \$163.83 total)



If you want to give your children the full impact of this illustration, continue through the first 10 days of doubling at which point you will run out of pennies. Explain to them that after day 10 they would already have more than \$10 worth of pennies and that after two weeks they would have \$163.83.

Read Acts 2:36-41. Ask, "What happened here as Peter preached? What was the result? Is this an example of the multiplication principle we learned about?" (Answer: No, 3000 people were added to their number that day)

Read 2 Timothy 2:2. Ask, "Is this an example of the multiplication principle we learned about? Explain." (Answer: Yes, Paul shares his faith with faithful men, who in turn share with other faithful men, etc.)

If you have an example of this principle from your own life, close by sharing it with your family. Otherwise close by praying that God would use each of you to multiply your faith into others. Praying by name for some specific people you would like to reach with the gospel is a great idea.

For more great ideas on how to teach the value of multiplying your faith into others check out the resources available from Faith Path at the Faith@Home Center. Specifically check out the milestones entitled "Parent-Child Dedication" and "Prepare to Lead Your Child to Christ."

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