



Obey the Word of God

Best Use

To teach your kids to obey the Word of God.

Value

This idea can trigger meaningful dialogue about Obeying the Word of God.

Advance Preparation

Read John 14:26 "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." Other relevant passages include:

- Colossians 3:20 "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord."
- Psalm 119:9 "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your Word."

Activity—Shining for Jesus

You will need some dirty pennies, two small bowls, salt, vinegar, cotton swabs (the double-ended stick swabs) and a copy of these paragraphs to serve as your "instructions."

Begin by telling your children that you need to clean some pennies and you have read that you can use vinegar to clean them

- Put some pennies in the bowl. Dip a cotton swab in vinegar and try to clean the pennies. (You might see a slight cleaning effect, but nothing significant.)
- Pretend that you are disappointed in the results. Then say, "I guess I should have read the instructions more carefully." Consult your instructions and then say, "Now I understand! I was supposed to mix salt into the vinegar."
- Now have your children help you stir 1 tsp. of salt into $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of vinegar. Have them stir until the salt is dissolved.
- When the salt is completely dissolved, allow your children to put the pennies into the mixture. You may need to stir the solution a bit, but the results will be startlingly different – your efforts will produce some clean and shiny pennies.
- Explain that we are like the vinegar and the salt is like the Holy Spirit. We can try to be obedient on our own, but it is hard to obey when we try to do it in our own strength. It is much easier to obey when we ask God for help from His Holy Spirit.



Give each of your children a shiny penny to remind him how brightly his righteousness shines when he obeys God.

Pray with your children, asking God to give them a desire to obey.

Questions for discussion:

- What did I do wrong the first time?
- Which instruction did I not follow at first?
- Where do we find God's instructions?
- Who can help you obey God's instructions?

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 milestone entitled "Bible."

