

How Much Rice?

Materials Needed

Measuring cup, teaspoon
measure, 3 ½ cups of dry rice,
tray with sides or large shallow
baking pan, a large and small
bowl to put rice in.

Prepare in Advance

Pour the dry rice into the large
bowl.

1. A warm-up activity that compares the number who responded to Gideon's call to fight Midian (32000) with the number the Lord chose to fight (300).
2. How many grains of rice do you think will fit into one cup? (Types of rice vary in size. For this experiment, we've chosen 9,600 as the number of grains in a cup. Let students guess and see who comes close to a reasonable answer!)
3. (For older children) If each cup holds 9,600 grains, how many cups of rice would be needed for 32,000 grains? ($3\frac{1}{3}$ cups)
4. Invite the children to measure out $3\frac{1}{3}$ cups into a large flat tray or box lid. Engage the senses by allowing children to touch the rice and experience what 32,000 feels like.
5. Now we need to measure 300 grains of rice. For this we only need 1 teaspoon. Invite the children to measure the rice a teaspoon of rice. Pour the rice into a small bowl. How does 300 grains of rice feel?
6. Compare the large and small amounts of rice. Ask age-appropriate questions, e.g., Which container has more rice, which has less? Which amount would feed many people? How much more rice does the tray have than the small bowl? (a ratio of 3:320 grains)
7. Today we will hear a story that includes the numbers 32,000 and 300. Let's find out what the story is about.

New Church Concept Locusts

The locust signifies falsity in the most external things, or the densest falsity. In Moses: You shall carry out much seed into the field, but shall gather little; for the locust shall consume it (Deuteronomy 28:38); which is one of the curses if the Israelites did not keep and do the commandments of Jehovah. The seed of the field means the truth of the Word, and the locust dense falsity from the sensual person that consumes and destroys it. See *Apocalypse Explained* 543.11

