Learn by Doing

Choice Light and Darkness Experiment

In the beginning the earth was without form and void. Then God created light and divided the light from the darkness, creating day and night. The dawning light pictures a dawning awareness of what is right (light) when we are ignorant and thinking only about ourselves (darkness). Children will assemble a bottle filled with oil and colored water that can be shaken together but will always separate. This illustrates the way selfish thoughts always separate from the Lord's true and loving ideas.



1. Give each child an empty water bottle and plastic cup. Fill cup with water. Add color to the water either by dipping a blue or black washable marker in and swirling it around, or adding washable blue or black powder paint. Pour the water into the bottle, filling it half way. *Hint*: use a plastic cup bent into a funnel to make this easier.
2. Fill the bottle up with oil.
3. What do the oil and water do? (They separate.)
4. Screw the cap on the bottle tightly! Duct tape the lid closed. Shake the bottle. Can the oil and water mix? (No.)
5. The oil (light color) is like the true ideas that come from the Lord in His Word. The (dark) water is our minds when we care and think only about ourselves. These things are so different it is impossible to mix them, no matter how hard we might try!

> "For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
> Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord
>
> "For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
> So are My ways higher than your ways,
> And My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

Materials for Each Child

small recycled plastic bottle, water, washable blue or black marker or paint, oil (light vegetable oil e.g. corn oil or mineral oil (**heavy oils do not work well**), duct tape, disposable plastic cup

Prepare in Advance

Remove all labels stuck to the bottles.

Avoid a Mess!

Secure the bottle cap using duct tape so it cannot be removed. Oil is hard to remove from carpets and upholstery.

Video

View at https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-light-and-darkness-experiment/

© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem