

Eager for True Ideas (Ages 3-6)

The Lord chose 300 men from the 32,000 who volunteered to defeat the Midianites. These men kept watch and lapped water, like dogs. They represent true ideas that are eager to serve. They are knowledges from the Word we take in and use to change the way we live. Children will make paper plate faces that “drink in” true ideas and can spill them back out in kind ways of treating others.

1. How many ways do you like to drink water? (cup, straw, melting ice cube, drinking fountain, etc.)
2. Our story today talked about a special way of drinking—lapping with your tongue. The Lord tells us everything in the Word has a special purpose and meaning. With what animal did the Lord compare people who lapped? (dog) Have you watched a dog drink? How do dogs drink? Maybe you can watch a dog drink one day.
3. The Word tells us dogs are eager. Are you ever eager? What does being eager mean? (Give examples, such as, being the first to put your hand up to answer a question; coming as soon as you’re asked to; going to hold a door as soon as you see someone needs help; picking up something a baby has dropped, etc.)
4. The 300 men who were going to fight for the Lord were eager to help. They watched for their enemies as they drank from their hands. They were ready to fight at any second.
5. We’re going to make a face that “drinks” in true ideas from the Word. Hand out paper plates with pre-cut mouths. Give children a choice about drawing features. They can use the features supplied on the *Face Template* (p. 2) or draw their own features directly on to the plate after removing the template.
6. Using scissors, cut *Water Truths* (p. 3) page in half on the center line.
7. Fold each half approximately into thirds lengthwise along the fold lines so the words are on the outside. Tape the edges of each strip down securely.
8. Tape the two folded *Water Truths* strips together to make one long strip, placing tape around both sides of the strip so that it can be pulled through the mouth smoothly.
9. Put one end of the long strip through the mouth. Pull the strip through, overlap the ends and tape them together (on both sides) to form a loop. See picture (top right).
10. Read and then talk about the words on the strips. Pull the strip through the mouth in a circle to show a person taking true ideas from the Word into their mind. Reverse the strip and imagine what it is like to use true ideas from the Word to help others.



Materials Needed for Each Child

9" (about 23cm) plain paper plate, *Face Template*, p. 2, *Water Truths* p. 3 printed in color, markers or crayons, scissors, tape

Prepare in Advance

Gather supplies. Print one *Face Template* and *Water Truths* page in color for each child. Trim the edges of the *Face Template* and tape over the paper plate. Gently bend the plate in half vertically with the face showing to cut out the mouth. **Important note:** The mouth shape is flat at the bottom to make the activity work smoothly.

New Church Concept Water

“Water in the spiritual sense is the truth of faith from the Word.” *New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrine* 204

Face Template



THE LORD
LOVES ME

THE LORD
LOVES ME

BE
USEFUL

BE
USEFUL

LOVE
THE
LORD

LOVE
THE
LORD

LOVE
OTHERS

LOVE
OTHERS

THE LORD
WILL
HELP ME

THE LORD
WILL
HELP ME

OBEY
THE
COMMAND-
MENTS

OBEY
THE
COMMAND-
MENTS

THE LORD
MAKES
ME HAPPY

THE LORD
MAKES
ME HAPPY

HELP
OTHERS

HELP
OTHERS

SHARE

SHARE