Keeping the Word Holy

Materials Needed

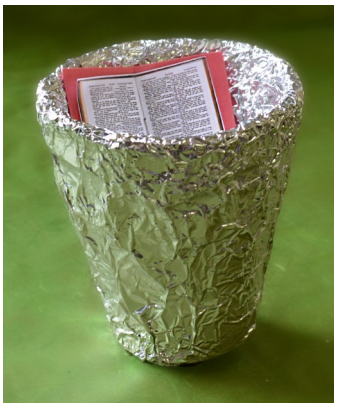
copy of the Word with a cover, plastic goblets or cups; silver or gold (aluminum) foil, copy of *Word Pages* p. 2, stiff red paper to make a cover for the Word pages, stapler, tape, scis-sors

Prepare in Advance

Buy cups and foil. Divide the foil into pieces large enough to cover the cups. Print copies of *Word Pages* and cut apart (1 for each child). Cut the stiff red paper into rectangles just a little larger than the Word pages. Staple the Word into the cover along the center line.

New Church Concept
Temple Vessels

By the "temple at Jerusalem" from which the vessels came, is signified in the supreme sense the Lord, in the representative sense His kingdom and church. The kingdom of Belshazzar being "divided" signified the dissipation of good and truth, and he himself being "slain that night" signified the loss of the life of truth and good, thus damnation; for "to be divided" denotes to be dissipated; "a King" denotes the truth of good. *Arcana Coelestia* 9093



King Belshazzar, son of Nebuchadnezzar, was a selfish king. He did something that was very wrong. He took vessels from the temple, which were to be used for the sacred worship of the Lord, and used them for his own pleasure. In doing this he mixed good with evil, which is profanation. This offense was so serious that he died and his kingdom was given to the Medes and Persians that night. Children will make a "goblet" of silver or gold to represent the precious goblets from the Lord's temple. They will put a miniature copy of the Lord's Word in the goblets, to remind them that we are to treat the truths from the Lord's Word with special care.

1. Show a copy of the Word. The Lord talks to us in the Word, and so we treat the Word with care. Show the Word with a special protective Word cover on it. We use a cover to protect the Lord's Word because it is holy.
2. Do you keep a copy of the Word in a special place in your home or bedroom? What is your special place for the Word like? What do you keep near the Word?
3. In what other ways can we care for the Word? Would we put the Word on the floor? Or put something on top of it? Or use the things the Lord says in the Word lightly?
4. What holy things did king Belshazzar use in the wrong way? The goblets from the temple in Jerusalem that were for worshipping the Lord. They should not have been used at a party. Using the goblets in the wrong way would be like us using the Word in the wrong way.
5. We are going to make goblets that are silver (or gold), to remind us of the goblets that were taken from the temple in Jerusalem.
6. Give each child a plastic cup and a piece of gold or silver foil. Wrap the cup in the foil, covering the cup completely. Tape the ends to secure the foil if needed.
7. Give each child a miniature copy of the Word to put inside their cup to remind them how important it is to keep the Lord's Word holy, just as the cups from the temple were holy.

© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem

Word Pages

