

## Object Lessons

“Object Lessons are Visual Analogies.” It is using familiar objects to explain unfamiliar ideas, usually abstract principles. Many hard-to-understand truths can be symbolized by easy-to-understand objects.” *The Joyful Child* & *Nurturing Spirituality in Children*, by Peggy Jenkins

You can use Object Lessons at any time. Here are some ideas using common objects.

“This is a \_\_\_\_\_ but it is so much more! It \_\_\_\_\_. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ and so much more.

### **Beads & String**

- Diversity: The string is God and the beads are people and when you put all the different people together, they form one unified presence.
- Where one or two are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them.
- Lay your problems on God and He holds it all together.
- Looking at the hole that goes through the bead: We all have room for God (the string) to fill us with His love, which makes the connection stronger.
- Looking at all of the supplies: How so many things can work together to make a final product.

### **Carbon Paper**

Shows how God reflects in our life.

Thoughts we hold in mind are reproduced in our lives.

God expresses through you to someone else.

We keep the original copy of every thought we send out.

We don't have to see it to know it is expressing somehow.

### **Hammer**

- Can be used to make a point (hitting the nail on the head) or can represent missing the point (not hitting the mark.)
- Can be used to remove things that are no longer needed.
- Can be used to build up or to destroy. It is our choice
- It can be used to close something or to pry something open.
- It has many different parts and each has an important function.
- Just as we can direct our aim with the hammer we can also do so with our thoughts.

### **Magnets**

- What do we attract into our lives?
- What pulls us towards things?
- How to stick to one another through problems.
- Sticking to your spiritual path and values.
- Positive affirmations: I am like a magnet because I draw good things to myself. I attract positive things to my life.
- What pulled you away from your path this week?

## **Play dough**

- How we can shape thought, character, and Unity principles.
- God accepts different forms.
- God expressing through creativity.

## **Butterfly**

- Represents seasons & cycles – Birth, death, rebirth – in the flow of life.
- How sometimes we go through a struggle to become whole – like the caterpillar struggles to be free of the cocoon.
- How we judge ourselves – are we a butterfly or caterpillar? We are attracted to the sweetness in life.

## **Building Blocks**

- Diversity: Different colors, shapes, uniqueness, balance – Used together creates something wonderful.
- Sum of the whole is greater than its parts.
- More than one way to accomplish things.
- The possibilities are endless.
- We are always expanding in our understanding of what we can create.
- Each block has its own function – they are all equal.
- They aren't functional until you use them, like our talents.
- We need to work together.
- If they are knocked down they can always be built back up.
- Stronger when you build the second time – learning from experience.

## **Basket with Leggo Pieces**

- When some part of your life is in pieces, like the Leggos, how would you handle this? It appears that, at first, there is no way to put the pieces back the way they were. However, the basket represents God and his presence always encircling and enfolding every part of our lives. If we let go of worrying over the separate pieces and let God take charge and get peaceful and quiet within ourselves, God will give us the wisdom and power to create something new.