

Activity: Get It, Give It

(Works best with more than six people.)



Teaching Goal: You can't give away what you do not have.

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-19 Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Acts 9 The story of Paul's conversion.

Materials: Bag of popular candy or small treat

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and Discussion

☺ Words that are written in **bold** are when you, the parent, are speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. **ACTIVITY: We are going to play a simple game. I'm going to give someone a piece of this candy. Then I'm going to turn around and count to 10. The person can keep the candy or pass it to someone else. When I turn around I will guess which person I think has the candy. If I'm correct you have to give me the candy. If I'm wrong, whoever has the candy gets to keep it.** Play the game 10 or more times and hopefully the guesser will get at least one piece of candy. Count how many pieces of candy each player has and how many each player had to give away.

B. **Christians are to tell other people about Jesus. Read Matthew 28:18-19. Even though Jesus tells us to tell others, it seems like few Christians today do it. Do friends in your school know that you believe and follow Jesus? Do our neighbors?**

One reason people do not tell others about Jesus is that they don't know what they believe. Be careful, this discussion is not about whether or not someone is a Christian. It is about why Christians may be reluctant to share their faith. **You can not give away what you do not have. You cannot tell someone what you don't know.**

In the game I try to guess who has the candy. The only person who could give me the piece of candy is the person who has the candy! You couldn't give me a piece of candy if you didn't have it. In the same way, we need to have Jesus and know about Jesus before we can share him with others. Listen carefully: The more we know about Jesus, the more we will want others to know about Him. Repeat this last sentence. **Look what happened to the**

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Apostle Paul. Put the story of Paul from Acts 9 into your own words highlighting these key points:

- At first, Paul did not tell other people about Jesus. He did just the opposite. Paul hated Christians, had them beaten and imprisoned.
- Jesus appeared to Paul and told him to quit picking on Christians.
- Paul did what Jesus told him to do.
- The Holy Spirit entered Paul's life.
- Paul learned more about Jesus from other Christians.
- Then Paul began to tell others about Jesus.
- Paul continued to learn more about Jesus and spent his life telling others.
- In just a few days, Paul went from hating Christians to helping people become Christians.

First, let's check to see if we have what Paul had:

1. **Have we met Jesus?** Do we know and follow him?
2. **Are we doing what Jesus tells us to do?** No one is perfect but our lives should look more like Christ if he is in our life.
3. **Like Paul, can we see the Holy Spirit working in our life?** You know the difference between right and wrong. Are you obeying the internal voice that says, "Do what is right and don't do what is wrong?"
4. **Are you learning more about Jesus?** (This is often the missing piece with older children.) Learning is more than a Sunday School class. For younger children it can be prayer, Christian music, videos and books. For older children, it includes reading the Bible, praying and journaling. You can also learn from discussions with other Christians. Invite each person to share how they plan to learn more about Jesus.
5. **Does what you are learning about Jesus come up naturally in your conversations? Do you talk about church, youth group, etc.** If number "5" is not happening then add more number "4." **If Jesus and our faith are not in our conversations then we need to learn more about Him.**

C. Let's pray and ask God to give us courage to talk about Jesus with our friends. Let's take a simple first step. Tomorrow, let's look for an opportunity to tell one person "We did Family Time last night." Role play how you can respond to people who might ask "What is Family Time?"

V. Memorize

**Once you know,
Jesus says, "Go!"**

VI. Close in Prayer

VII. Pass it on

Pray and ask God to bring to your mind another family that would benefit from this activity. Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on*. You may also know a children's minister who would like to share this lesson with other families.