

The Incorruptible Seed

1 Peter 1:23

PREPARATION:

1. Before hand collect some seeds for the children to be able to see and hold during the lesson. You can collect any kind of seeds at all. The more variety in the shape, size and color of the seeds the more interesting it will be to the children. I collected two acorns, two rose seeds which are very small, two apple seeds, two lemon seeds, two green bean seeds and one avocado seed (see picture). I saved and dried an avocado seed ahead of time because it would not be easy for the children to guess what the seed came from.
2. Read the verse and become familiar with the verse and the spiritual principle that you want to teach. Mark the verse with a ribbon or card ahead of time so that when you are ready to read the verse you do not have to find the passage. You want to be able to open right to the passage without looking for it. (If you have to look for the passage, you may lose the interest and attention of the children.)

Set up:

1. Depending on how much time you have to teach the lesson, either set up a little table with the seeds set out on the table ahead of time or if you have the time you can pull the seed out of a bag and arrange them on the table while the children are watching (this creates interest as the children will be figuring out what the seed are from as you put them on the table). Don't let the children touch the seeds until you tell them they can touch them.
2. Important: have your Bible on the table at the beginning of the lesson before you put the seeds on the table. It is important that your Bible is on the table with the seeds before you start talking about the seeds.

Lesson:

1. Begin talking about seeds. Seeds are little packages of life (Pick up one of the seeds and hold it up for them to see as you talk about seeds in general). God created plants with the seeds in them so that the plant can reproduce itself and make more of the plant that it came from so that we will always have more of that plant.
2. Ask the children to identify the seeds on the table one at a time as you pick up the seed and hold it up for them to guess. You can have the children raise their hands to guess so that you can make sure that most everyone gets a turn to guess what the seed came from and what the seed will become if put in the ground and watered. You can put the seed in the hand of the child who correctly guesses what the seed came from. This is especially helpful to keep the attention of the youngest children. (Collect the seeds from the children after the lesson is finished.)
3. After you have allowed the children to guess all of the seeds and have given them all out to the children (and the table is empty except for your Bible), ask the children, "Are there any seeds left?" The first reaction of the children will be to say "yes, they are all gone." When they say that all of the seeds are gone tell them, "No, there is one more seed left, and it is the most important seed of all." This should get a good response of excitement and realization from the children. (An older child may figure out the point of your lesson ahead of time, so be ready if they guess it. If they do, just respond by emphasizing their correct guess. "You are absolutely right!" and continue with your lesson.)
4. Pick up your Bible and read 1 Peter 1:23 and teach the children that the Bible is the incorruptible seed because it is the Word of God. At this point you can teach one or all of the following:
 - a. These seeds when planted and watered bring forth the plant life that they came from (acorn – oak tree; apple seed – apple tree; avocado seed – avocado bush etc.) The Bible brings forth eternal life or divine life because it is from God.
 - b. Salvation (being born again). The Word of God teaches us that we are sinners and that Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins and through faith in Jesus Christ we can be born again with God's life. The Bible calls it eternal life (you can quote John 3:16 here).
 - c. The Word of God will never pass away. These seeds will all eventually decay and die. But the Bible is God's Word; it will never go away or die. The Bible came from God's own mouth and He has given it to us so that we can know Him and have eternal life.