

# Activity: Coins

## God Looks at the Inside



### Teaching Goal:

Man looks at the outside but God looks at the inside.

### Scripture:

1 Samuel 16 "Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you [Samuel] to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king...Samuel did what the Lord said...Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." ...So [Jesse] sent and had [David] brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one."

### Materials:

A pure silver Kennedy half-dollar (You may be able to borrow this from a friend or family member. These can be costly.)

A filled Kennedy half-dollar.

Paper and pencil

#### 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 #1: Show the children the two coins and ask, "**What is different about these two coins?**" The date may be different. The color may be different. There may be dents or nicks.

Record their answers and then put the coins away for a few minutes. Put into your own words the story of Jesse. It may go something like this:

**Does anyone know the story of Jesse? Jesse was the father of a famous king. Can you guess which king? Jesse was the father of David. The story of Jesse includes a famous prophet. Can you guess who? Hint: As a young boy God spoke to this prophet in the middle of the night. Samuel. One day God told Samuel to go to Jesse's house. God would pick a king from one of Jesse's sons. Samuel obeyed and went to Jesse's house. Samuel asked Jesse to get his sons so God could tell them which one would be the next king. Jesse lined up seven of his sons. (Do you know any families with seven boys!?) Samuel looked at the first son, Eliab, and thought, "Surely this is the son God has chosen to be king." But God said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." God rejected all seven sons to be king. So Samuel**

asked Jesse if he had any more sons and Jesse said he had one more son, the youngest who was away taking care of the sheep. The youngest boy was David. Jesse sent for David and when he arrived, God told Samuel, "He is the next king!" Man looks at the outside while God looks at the inside, the heart.

Bring back the coins. **When we examined these coins we looked at the outside. The biggest difference is the inside. The inside of this one is pure silver. This other one is filled with a cheaper metal.**

**There is a big difference because the one that is pure silver is worth a lot more. It may even be worth \$30 while the other coin is worth 50 cents.**

**How are the coins, looking at the outside and looking at the inside, similar to the story of Samuel, Jesse, Eliab and David? Have you ever been attracted to someone who was popular and pretty only to find this person wasn't a very nice person to be around? We cannot change the way God made us look, but with God's help we can change the inside: how we treat others, our behavior, character qualities, etc. How does someone act or behave who is pleasing on the inside to God?**

B. OPTIONAL (for older children): (Discussion on sexual purity. Have this discussion before your children reach the age where peers are sexually active.) **Which one of these two coins do you think is hardest to find and why?** The pure silver one because it is more valuable.

**Purity is more valuable than impurity. God calls us to be pure sexually.**

I Thessalonians 4: 3b-5 "...avoid sexual immorality, that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God;"

I Corinthians 6:18 "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body."

Colossians 3:5 "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry."

In our country today it is rare for teenagers to stay sexually pure. It is rare and valuable.

**Why do you think sexual purity is so important to God?**

**Why do you think sexual purity is so rare today?**

**Someday if you marry, what do you think the value will be in being sexually pure and marrying someone who is sexually pure?**

**V. Memorize:**

**Man looks at the surface  
God sees deeper for His purpose**

**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.

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