

PRIORITY JARS (10 mins)

Supplies: Quart mason jar, enough rice to fill the jar, three Ping Pong® balls, large shallow tray or pan, bowl

Prepare: Place the jar inside the pan. Put three Ping Pong balls in the jar, then fill as full as possible with rice. Empty the rice into a bowl and place the Ping Pong balls by the jar.

Fill the jar with rice. Explain that the rice represents all the things we do with our time. Hold up a few Ping Pong balls and explain that they represent the big priorities in our lives—like Jesus, family, and school. Try to force all of the balls into the jar (some of the rice will spill out). Point out that the big things won't fit if we try to add them after the jar is full.

Empty the jar. Fill the jar with the balls first. Then pour all of the rice into the jar. Notice that everything fits when we give our priorities first place—especially when we put Jesus first.

Debrief: Explain that Jesus wants to be our Redeemer. He wants to be the most important thing in our lives, if we will let Him. If we make Him our first priority, then all the other things in life can fall into place.