

Object Lesson for Jealousy. Only two lollipops



Introduction: The sinful heart that we are born with is inherently covetous. To illustrate, randomly pick two kids to be the recipients of the only two lollipops. Give them both a lollipop and ask them to stand up and show everyone their lollipops. After an appropriate amount of let-it-sink-in-that-no-one-else-is-going-to-get-a-lollipop time, announce that there were only two lollipops and that the two recipients could take theirs home. Ask to two children to sit back down, then ask the group a series of questions:

- 1) Who was tempted to want one for themselves? (it's highly likely some will have already verbalized that thought).
 - a. Affirm that is a natural tendency, because we are born with sinful hearts. (may want to share an account of a time that you've felt jealous of something that someone else had).
 - b. Ask kids to share what they felt.
 - c. If one or more children report that they weren't jealous help them see that is a perfect opportunity to thank God for protecting their heart!
- 2) Who was happy for the two who receive the lollipops?
 - a. Again affirm the power of the covetous heart, and celebrate with any child(ren) who was able to resist
- 3) Ask the recipients if they were tempted to feel proud of having the only two lollipop?