

THE OBJECT LESSONS CHANNEL!



Lesson Outline:

- Tell the Bible Story
- Give the Object Lesson
- Do the Activity Page
- Wrap Up

The Monkey Trap

- A good one for young and old •

Main Point: Satan sets traps, offering us good things. But he offers them at the wrong time, in the wrong place or for the wrong purpose.

Bible Story: The Rich Young Man • Mark 10:17-22:

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him. Kneeling, the man asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to gain eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. But you know the commandments: Do not murder, don't commit adultery, never steal, don't lie, don't defraud anyone, always honor your father and mother."

The man said, "Teacher, I have kept all of these since I was a child." With love for the man, Jesus said, "You lack one thing: Sell your possessions, give the money to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me." But the man was deeply dismayed by this truth. He went away grieving because he was very wealthy.

Comment: The man asked Jesus what to do to get to heaven. Jesus gave him a simple answer: "Follow me." But to be with Jesus, the man had to give up the one thing holding him back: his wealth. Wealth can be a wonderful thing in the hands of a person who loves and honors God. But when it becomes our god, that's big trouble.

- Regarding Jesus' remark that only God is good, He was asking if the man believed He is God.

Object Lesson: The Monkey Trap of Temptation

Materials Needed: The coconut, chain, hole saw and parts described in the video. A small corrugated cardboard box with a hand-size hole is considerably easier and works just as well. Use a coconut if you intend to repeat this object lesson over the years or in front of different groups.

In class, demonstrate the Monkey Trap object lesson, pointing out that the object of a monkey's desire can lead to a deadly trap. The object isn't necessarily bad, but if it interferes with our relationship with the Lord, it's ruinous. Have a person reach in to try to remove the object inside.

Link to the Object Lesson Video: <https://youtu.be/jfK0f8gl48A>

Note: The video has a link to an old silent film showing a genuine monkey trap in action.

Activity Page: The Monkey Trap Game

Materials Needed: The game cards must be printed on cardstock or darkly colored paper to prevent 'see-through.'

Wrap Up: Pass the monkey trap around, encouraging everyone to test the strength of the chain and coconut or box. Point out that the power of the trap isn't in the coconut or chain, or even a tree. It's within ourselves. The trap works only if we are unwilling to let go of the bait!

The MONKEY TRAP Game!

Teacher: Print on cardstock or darkly-colored paper to prevent 'show-through.' Make one copy for each small group of two or three players. Cut cards apart, saving each set in an envelope.

To Play: Best with three players. Shuffle the set of cards and place them facedown in front of the players. Kids take turns taking one card each time. The player who turns up the Monkey Trap forfeits all points, and the game ends with the highest scorer as the winner.

If there are only two players: Both players keep their points when the Monkey Trap is turned up—the high scorer wins. Shuffle and play again as time allows.

