

# Priority Jar Activity



## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A large glass jar
- Blocks that can fit inside the jar
- Rice (enough to fill the jar when it's filled with blocks)

## DOES JESUS FIT INTO YOUR LIFE?

Life is busy, and it's too easy to put things on the back burner. But, keeping our faith as the first priority in our life is so important. Teaching our children to keep Jesus a priority when they are young will help them continue to do so into their teenage and adult years. When life gets busy and stressful, it is our time with God that keeps our focus on Him — where we find our comfort.

As parents and caretakers, teaching this to our children is paramount for their faith foundation. But, this concept can be challenging for children to understand — so, we're here to help! This fun activity will help kids visually understand the importance of putting Jesus first in their life. This visual reminder is sure to stick with them for years!

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."*

— MATTHEW 6:33



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## INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDED CONVERSATION:

- Bring out the large jar. Say, *“This jar represents my day. The things I put in the jar are the activities that I choose to spend my time on.”*
- Say, *“I think I’ll start with some morning television.”* (Pour some rice into the jar)
- Say, *“Next comes getting ready for my day.”* (Pour more rice into the jar)
- Continue adding activities such as errands, school, hanging out with friends, even eating meals, until all the rice has been used.
- Hold up the blocks and say, *“Here are the activities that help me focus on Jesus. Prayer* (place a block in the jar), *reading my Bible* (place another block in the jar), *going to church* (place another block in the jar).” Continue listing Jesus-focused activities until no more blocks can be added. You should have blocks remaining that don’t fit.
- Ask, *“What happened?”* (the rice took up all the space; there wasn’t room for Jesus)
- Empty the jar of the blocks and rice. Say, *“Let’s try this again, only I’m going to focus on Jesus first this time.”*
- Add the blocks one at a time, naming the activities as you go.
- Ask, *“What do you think will happen to all the other things I need to do?”*
- Slowly pour the rice into the jar, listing some of the activities you mentioned when you first put the rice in. The rice will fill up the empty spaces around the blocks. Your jar should now contain all the blocks and the rice.
- Say, *“When we focus on Jesus and put Him first in your life, everything else will fit into place!”*
- Say, *“So, what is one thing you can do today to keep your focus on Jesus?”*



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