

God's WORTHshop is far beyond a collection of projects that become ho-hum activities to keep hands and minds busy, through long 'golden years' days of feeling like you've been shelved, by God and those around you. Though it may seem overly simplified, there is great truth to the axiom - "If you're still breathin', God has need of you... or moreso, you have need of Him."

It would be short-sighted to think that God's WORTHshop projects are just for the silver-haired.

God's WORTHshop projects have a two-fold purpose:

- (1) Assemble the projects while learning heavenly truths, often represented by items and instructions in the project.
- (2) The finished kit (project) then becomes a toolkit used by faith-based leaders, in basements, backyards, or jungle clearings.

Theme: **Preparation**

(Note: Review the Safety, Hygiene, and Disclaimer Guidelines addendum.)

Towers mentioned in holy scripture, are the focus of many very powerful life principles beginning with the very young. The Sweet Tower project is designed to be a fun hands-on activity partnering a teen or adult with a much younger person. The lesson is "preparation". It can be adapted to the attention span and intellect of the hearer(s).

Preparation is an operation critical to each of us that grows as do we. In Luke 14:28, 29 the picture lesson is given of a man to build a tower. He must prepare before building. He is to count the cost; in materials, money, time, and talent. In those days a tower was crucial to protecting ones crops and cattle against theft, weather, etc. The tower was their communication as they'd build a fire on top and signal to others. Towers often were their shelter of protection against the elements. Note: Many towers had their sides covered. A man's tower also indicated how dedicated he was in building things.

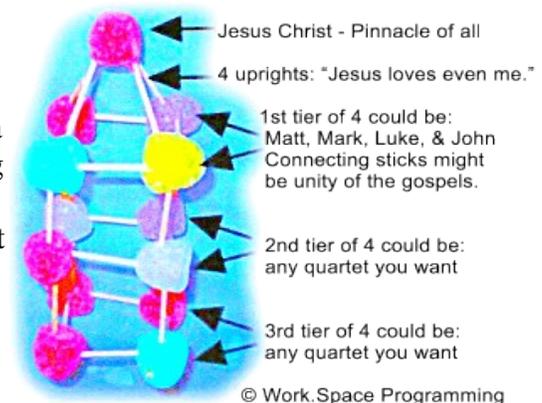
Lesson 1:

= I dropped a few JELLY BEANS into an aluminum pie pan. (noisy).

= I then had a couple homefolks try to moderately squeeze a hard shelled jelly bean. We then did basically the same thing with a soft easily molded gum drop. We learned that God doesn't want hard headed people to serve Him but soft sweet spoken ones (like the gum drop).

=We then found the skills of each one of the homefolks in sticking a gum drop on each end of a toothpick. If time allows, show them what they'll be doing in the next hands-on time. (Connecting 4

toothpicks with 4 gum drops in a circle.) This circle will represent the 4 gospel writers united to telling



us about Jesus.)

= Show your student(s) a picture of the Sweet Tower. Practice with them counting the gum drops and then the toothpicks. Note: in place of the gum drops you can use clay, playdough, potato chunks, or mud balls etc.

= Wherever possible, show the principle in an open Bible. Keep an open Bible near toolboxes or a project in progress. Begin with the base layer. As you construct it, suggest the four gum drops represent Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; the four Gospel writers that us so much about Jesus and His love.

== The second layer may represent the purpose of the Bible: (2nd Tim 3:16) Doctrine (rules), reproof (testing), correction (discipline), and instruction (learning).

Maybe before the Sweet tower is finished, you show the result, from scripture (Lu 14 :29) of a project started without preparation. This is also a good place to stress that others are watching what we do. We need to always maintain a clean clear joyful testimony for Jesus Christ.

= The third layer might represent the four areas of Jesus' life as he was growing up (Lu 2:52) Wisdom (mental), Stature (physical), Favor with God (spiritual), and Favor with Man (social).

= The peak represents only one way of salvation; Jesus Christ.

Note: It's important that you teach your students realizing they are to reteach lessons, in accordance with 2nd Tim 2:2.

The Kit

In keeping with the functions of WORTHshop projects, the second is turning the construction object(s) into a teaching toolkit that missionaries and faith-based leaders can use to teach others (and maybe even have them make another toolkit).

= The toolkit is simply any container that can be SEALED against weather or insects. This might be a plastic box or plastic bag.

= If the kits are to be transported, it would be advisable to include some soft packing. I used plastic pillow filler.

= The printed inserts can be designed by you, in the appropriate language. It can include instructions on how to create the Sweet Tower, WORTHshop concepts, additional lessons, stories, poems or images. Caution should be given to using copyrighted resources.

= Create a kit before time to ensure that adhesives are appropriate for the container, and to show your students the finished product.

DANGER! Some adhesives are very dangerous to humans. Read label warnings before choosing.

{End of Sweet Tower Project}

