

Object Lessons

1. Game Control -

The game control lets you play the games. It's fun. Without some sort of game control you can't play the games on your game system. Do you ever start playing a game and think I'll play for 30 minutes and before you know it time has just slipped past you and it's an hour or two hours later? We get so caught up in the fun or the intensity of the game that everything around us fades away. When this happens we are no longer in control of the game, with the game control, but the game is in control of us. What we call a game control has become a person control. We need to be wise with the use of our time. *Ephesians 5:15-16 tells us "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise. Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."* Be in control of the game, use your time wisely, don't let the game be in control of you.

2. G.F.I.-

This type of outlet is really important to have around water, like in the bathroom, or in the kitchen. This tiny switch will pop or trip and stop the flow of electricity if something goes wrong like something getting wet, or too much power surges through the outlet. This happens so you won't get hurt. Memorizing scripture is like that. It stops us from getting hurt. It helps us to do the right things and stops us from doing the bad stuff so we won't get hurt. *Psalm 119:11 tells us that it says "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee."* We need to memorize God's word, know the verses really well, to be like that GFI switch that has the special stuff inside that makes it pop so we don't get hurt. When we know the verses really well when something comes along and it's wrong, it's a sin, something inside of us will pop with a Bible verse and we'll know not to do that thing.

3. Cell Phone –

A cell phone is really special. It helps us to stay in touch with people. It lets us call for help when we need it. But we need something with a cell phone to do that. The cell phone needs to be charged up or plugged in to work, but, even more important than that it needs to be connected to a service provider. Without a service provider you can punch in as many numbers as you want, but it just won't get through. In the same way, we need to be connected to God through Jesus Christ. Without Jesus you can't get through to heaven. *John 14:6 says "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me."* There aren't many ways to heaven only one way – the way. Believing in Jesus and what He did on the cross to pay for your sins, accepting that free gift is what makes the connection. *Acts 16:31 says "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved."* Have you placed your trust in Jesus? Have you got the connection?

4. Sidewalk Chalk –

When you draw a picture on the sidewalk with sidewalk chalk it looks so neat. You are sharing your picture with the world. Anybody and everybody that passes by can see what you did. You can draw pictures different things, write messages, or draw designs. We can be like a chalk picture out in public being a picture of Jesus for the world to see, showing Jesus to everyone and anyone that passes by. What happens though when the sidewalk drawing gets wet? It fades away doesn't it? Are we sometimes like chalk pictures that fade away? If somebody says something that hurts our feelings do we lash out in our words and make our picture fade away? If difficulties come like rain storms, does our picture fade away? You know none of us is perfect. Sometimes we mess up, even after we're a Christian, but that doesn't mean we stop trying. When our picture fades away, for whatever reason, we need to get back up and redraw that picture for the world to see. *1 Timothy 4:12 tells us "let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation (lifestyle) in charity (love), in spirit, in faith in purity."* We are to be a picture for others to see what it's like to be a believer in Jesus.

5. A pair of socks –

When you get dressed and put on sox, unless it's crazy socks night, you probably put on socks that match. You put on both socks too. You don't put on one sock and say I think I'll go without my second sock today. That'd be silly. When you get a whole in one sock you either mend it or throw it away. If you throw it away, you usually don't keep the other sock unless you have an identical pair still in the drawer to match with it if one of those gets a whole. The socks need each other. Socks remind me of two things in the Bible: Mercy and Grace. You see Mercy is God not giving me the punishment that I deserve, and Grace is God giving me the good that I don't deserve. *Romans 3:23 says "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" and Romans 6:23a says "For the wages of sin is death..."* So, we need mercy! We need God to not give us the punishment we deserve. The good news is *Psalms 103:8 says "The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy."* You see, we deserve punishment for our sin. God extends mercy to us he says I won't punish you for your sin, I'll extend grace and punish my Son instead and you can have that grace if you accept it. Remember *Romans 6:2a "For the wages of sin is death..."* but the verse doesn't end there. It goes on to say *"but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"* *Romans 5:8 tells us that "God commendeth (demonstrated) His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us."* God is offering both mercy and grace to each of us, but just because it's offered doesn't mean it's automatically ours. We need to accept it as a gift. That means you can't work for it or pay for you just have to believe and accept it. So next time you see a pair of socks, think about God's mercy and grace.

6. Belt –

What holds your pants up? Sometimes suspenders, but usually a belt. If you don't wear a belt, your pants are loose and could fall down. (Well, not if they're super tight, but that's beside the point.) You can't run a race very well if your pants are falling down. You'd have to run holding on to your pants and that would slow you down. So, what

holds your life up when things are going bad or just when life's busy? Is it God? *Psalm 17:4 and 5* says "Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer. Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not." Trusting God is like wearing your belt. He is the one that holds you up. Memorizing His word keeps you from sin. *Psalm 119:11*

7. Tea bag –

What do you have to do to make tea using this tea bag? You need to put it in water, in fact hot water. It needs to go into the hot water to make it what it should be. In fact the longer it's in the hot water the stronger it gets. Do you ever feel like you're in "hot water" – going through tough times or hard circumstances? When we go through those tough times we are told in *James 1:2-4* "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." Going through the "hot water" makes us stronger, it develops us into strong Christians, so rather than grumble about it we need to count it all joy and realize that God is in control and making us stronger.

8. Music box –

Music boxes are pleasant to listen to. They can calm us down or make us feel happy. We often use music boxes for babies to help them go to sleep. We wouldn't use loud clashing cymbals to put a baby to sleep or to calm us down would we? What are we like those crashing cymbals or a music box? If we speak with out love *1 Corinthians 13:1* says "... I am become a sounding brass, or a tinkling (clashing) cymbal." And *Philippians 2:14-15* says "Do all things with our murmurings (grumbling) and disputings (complaining) that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God with out rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation among whom you shine as lights." Lets watch how we speak and what we say so we won't be clashing cymbals, but rather music boxes that are pleasant to listen to.

9. Empty DVD Movie Box –

Are you like this empty DVD box? On the outside you look fine, you look like you're full, but there's really nothing inside of you. Are you playing Christian? Do you know the right words to say and how to act, but inside you're really empty? You've been in church all your life, so you look like a Christian, but you've never made the choice to accept Jesus as your Savior. God doesn't have any grandchildren. You aren't a Christian just because your parents are. God knows if you're real *1Sam. 16:7* says "Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart." You can't fool

God. Other people may think you're good, you're saved, but you really know differently, and so does God. Don't let pride keep you from accepting Jesus as your own Savior. Don't be that empty DVD box.

10. Brownie Mix/Cake Mix –

Actually do this:

The box says add oil and egg. So if I add motor oil and the whole egg (shell and all) I've followed the instructions, correct?

What's the matter with this, won't my cake turn out delicious? You're right, it would be bad for me. I would be poison for my body.

I need to follow the directions correctly. Jesus said in *John 14:6* "*I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me.*" He didn't say a way, a truth and a life! There are not additional ways to heaven. Nobody can get to heaven without accepting what Jesus did for them when He died, was buried and rose again (*1 Cor 15:3 & 4*). We are all sinners and deserve punishment for our sins in a place called hell (*Romans 3:23 & 6:23*). But, God showed His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us (*Romans 5:8*), so we need to believe that and accept the free gift that God offers to us (*John 3:16*). He gave (that's the gift) Jesus that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. What about you, are you going to follow the directions correctly and accept Jesus as your Savior?

11. Wallet –

What's a wallet for? (to hold money, credit cards, photographs) What's the most important thing in the wallet? It's not the credit cards. It's not even the money. It's the photos of the people. The people are the only thing that we can have with us in heaven. Everything else has to stay on earth, or get destroyed when God one day destroys the earth with fire. *In Matthew 6:19-21 it says "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."* So the Bible tells us not to store up treasures (money and stuff) here on earth, but to store up treasures in heaven. That treasure is the people we tell about Jesus. Are you storing up treasures in heaven?

12. Evian Water –

Don't be fooled. Is bottled water any better than water from a fountain or your faucet? Maybe it's filtered, but you can filter water at home. Your water at home probably has fluoride in it to help make your teeth strong. This bottle of water doesn't. In fact since we Americans started drinking bottled water so much, tooth decay has increased. Are we being fooled? Do you know what being *naïve* means? It means you don't know about something or you're not aware of a situation. Well, Evian spelled backwards is Naive! Every time I see a bottle of Evian water I think about not being fooled and I think about *Psalms 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee."* And *Psalms 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."*

We need to memorize God's word so we won't be fooled by the devil and do wrong things called sin. We need to let God's word guide us like a lamp or light allows us to see. Do be Evian – I mean Niave!

13. Leash

I see a leash and I think of love. The leash protects my dog from going where it is not safe. I used the leash to train my dog not to go into the street, to walk by my side, to stay close to me and listen to my voice. Now she does that. She doesn't need the leash when she's in our yard. She's 12 yrs old and she's learned to obey and trust and listen to me. Parents and adults are told in *Proverbs 22:6* says "*Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.*" So, we teach you what God says in the Bible about how to be safe how to be saved, and how to live your life, like - Children obey your parents, Honor your father and mother, give respect to authorities, pray for government officials, pray for one another and the list goes on and on. This "leash" protects and trains now so later you will be trained in right living. So allow the love of the "leash" to do it's job.

14. Shoelace –

A shoe lace gets in all kinds of twists and turns, tied up in knots, but it does its job. Life isn't easy. In fact we are told that there will be troubles in life. We go through twists and turns and sometimes feel tied up in knots, but there are 2 verses I think of when I see the shoe lace and when life isn't going like I want it to or think it should be going. They are *Philippians 4:4* "*Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice.*" And *Philippians 2:14* *Do all things without murmurings and disputings.*" (that's grumbling and complaining. So the next time things are rough, or the next time you see a shoelace... Rejoice!

15. Paperclip –

A paperclip is designed for a particular purpose, but if put under a little bit of stress – stretching or bending – it can be used for other things like

Resetting electronic equipment; Poking a small hole in something; hanging things from a ceiling or a Christmas tree ornament.

We need to be willing to be stretched, bent and put under some stress to be made into what God wants us to be. When you have Jesus as your Savior you want to do what He wants and you can be transformed *Romans 12:2* "*Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.*"

16. Scale –

The scale is used to weigh things like what? (us, mail, meat, fruits and vegetables.....) Sometime we like to see how much things weigh, like if you get a ½ lb of jelly beans, or when a baby is growing. But when we need to loose weight we often don't like to get weighed. We feel sad when we get weighed and nothing has changed. Did you know that God weighs things too? *Job 28:25 says God "weigheth the waters by measure."* *Wow, that would be a big scale!* But, I'm really thinking about us *Proverbs 16:2 says "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirits."* You see we might think its okay to read something, or listen to something or watch something, or say something... like it's "clean", its not that bad", but God weighs it against His perfectness, His Holiness and What is best for us. The next verse *Proverbs 16:3 says ""commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts will be established."* Look at what you're going to do or say, how does God weigh it?

17. Paper Cup –

Use it and throw it away. We're sometimes taught that by the world about people....like....

If a friend upsets you, throw them away and get a different one – or- maybe you're the friend that gets "thrown away" for someone more popular or who will give something you can't or won't.

Is this how God says we're to treat people? Are we all just "throw aways"? *Proverbs 12:27b says "the substance of a diligent man is precious."* Jesus died for people, for you. God gave His son to die for you so you could be with Him forever in heaven. If God loved us that much shouldn't we be kind to others and not treat them like "throw aways" *Ephesians 4:32 tells us be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* And *Psalm 127:3 says "Children are and heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb is his reward."* We are all special. Let's treat one another that way!

18. Bath Poof -

Why does a bath poof work? Because of the holes in this long strip of mesh fabric are all bunched together. If you had just 1 small piece of the poof it wouldn't work, but because it's bunched together with a lot of mesh fabric it woks. That's like us as the "body of Christ". We need each other. We can't accomplish much by ourselves but we can together. *1 Corinthians 12:12, 14 say "The body is one and hath many members... For the body is not one member but many... If the ear say because I'm not an eye, I am not of the body. If the whole body were and eye, where were the hearing?"* We need each other so lets all work together like the bath poof and accomplish what God has planned.

19. Laundry Basket –

The laundry basket can hold dirty clothes that need to be washed or it can hold clean clothes that are ready to be put away or worn. There's a choice here for the basket: clean or dirty, dirty or clean? We don't put clean clothes in a basket full of dirty clothes – they'd get dirty too. We don't put dirty clothes in a basket of clean clothes either because the clean clothes would get dirty. That's funny if we put clean clothes in a basket of dirty clothes the clean ones get dirty, but if we put dirty clothes in a basket of clean clothes they don't get clean. Huh, both ways the dirty clothes get the clean clothes dirty. That reminds me of us and our friends. *1 Corinthians 15:33* says "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." Another translation says "bad company corrupts good manners." If we hang around with friend that talk dirty or talk back to their parents or say bad things about others, that dirty bad stuff will get on us. That's what the Bible tells us in I Cor. 15:33. So, next time you the laundry basket, think about who you hang with and yourself. Do others make you dirty or do you make others dirty?

20. Blank Check –

If I were to take a check and put your name on it in the pay to space and sign my name to it and not fill in the amount, but tell you to fill in the amount for whatever you need right now, what would you fill in?

\$10.00? \$100.00? \$1,00.00? Or maybe more? Or would you just hang on to it and look at it and think, wow, that was sure nice. I'm gong to keep this to remember how nice she was. That'd be kinda silly, 'cause I gave you the check for you to have the money now, for whatever you needed. My gift to you of a blank check is an example of grace – getting something you don't deserve, just because I love you. You know, God is offering us blank checks to a grace account in heaven. *Eph 2:8-9* says "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and not of yourselves: it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast." The check has your name on it, signed by God for eternal life. Money can't buy that. But God is waiting for you to cash the check and receive eternal life. A - admit you're a sinner (*Romans 3:23*) B – Believe that Jesus died on the cross as payment for your sin (*1 Cor 15:3 & 4 and Romans 5:8*) C – Choose to accept that gift (*Acts 16:31*). Cash the check!

21. Toothbrush –

We use a toothbrush to clean our teeth – to get the cheerios, milk, peanut butter and jelly, mashed potatoes, chicken and ice cream off of our teeth. If we didn't us a toothbrush what would happen to our teeth? Yup, they'd get cavities and rot and get infected and all our food would taste like infection, and we'd have to get them pulled and YUCK! The toothbrush is a good thing isn't it?

Wouldn't it be nice if we had something like a toothbrush, maybe called a mouthbrush or a wordbrush or a mouth-w0rd-brush-guard, to keep our words clean? We kind of do... it's called prayer. David even wrote a prayer about that in *Psalms 19:14* – he said "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord, my strength and my redeemer." So there you go, when we brush our teeth with a toothbrush it can remind us to brush our mouths and words by praying and asking God to help us with the words we say today to be pleasing to Him. So, maybe now this isn't just a toothbrush anymore – now it's a **tooth-words-prayer-brush** for teeth or words or a **mouth-tooth-brush- for words** Oh, you get the idea.

22. Sweet Candy or Honey or Honeycomb –

Sometimes do you just want something sweet? Like a piece of candy? I like cherry lifesavers or butterscotch candy. I like to let it melt in my mouth and just enjoy the sweet taste. Sometimes candy is made with honey. In fact, the honeycomb, the waxy part that honey is in after the bees make it is sometimes sold in a jar of honey and it is fun to chew like candy and get all the sweet honey flavor out of it. The Bible tells us in *Proverbs 16:24* that *“Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.”* When someone is kind and speaks nicely and calmly it just makes you feel happy, just like that sweet candy or honey. So, next time you eat a candy or have honey on bread, think about your words. Are they like a honeycomb, sweet to the soul?

23. Backpack – and if possible a Huge suitcase or trunk

Sometimes people try to make us think that the Bible contradicts itself. Says one thing one place and something opposite someplace else, but that's not true. God is perfect and he doesn't contradict himself. Galatians 6:2 and 6:5 are verses somebody might say contradict themselves and try to confuse us, but if we Study to show ourselves approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed we'll find out the truth. *Galatians 6:2* says *“Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”* And *Galatians 6:5* says *“For every man shall bear his own burden.”* At first that sounds confusing, but when we study we find out that the words “burdens and burden” are two different things. Galatians 6:2 uses the Greek word that means a grievous heavy weight, like a huge heavy suitcase or big trunk that is just too much for one person to be able to handle, but Galatians 6:5 uses the word that means a load that can be carried, like a backpack. So we're instructed to bear one another's burdens that are too much for you to handle alone, but we are to bear our own burden when we can.

24. Fruit chews snack –

They look good..... they taste good..... It says on the package that they're good for you – made with real fruit No Preservatives Natural flavors 100% of Vitamin C Vitamins A & E But, let's look closer. What's it really made of ... Juice - that's good. Corn Syrup – that's sugar, sugar – that's sugar, modified Corn Starch – That turns into sugar in our body, Fruit Puree – that's mashed up fruit and that's a natural sugar. So,,. There fruit snacks are maybe not so good after all. Too much sugar causes diabetes, tooth decay and obesity. So what does this remind us of in the Bible. *Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25* say *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”* This snack looks like it's the right thing to do , but it's really not all that healthy –even though it's not going to lead to death. We have our own ways that seem good and right, but that leads to sin and we know from *Romans :23* that *“The wages of sin is death...”* We need to do things God's way, not the way that seems right to us. We need to study the Bible and memorize the verses, so we know right from wrong.

25. Stick –

What is a stick alive, or dead? Dead! We can pretend with a stick. My son used to pretend that a stick was a sword or a gun, but it was really just a dead stick. That

reminds me of us. Without God, we're really just like a dead stick. We maybe act or think or pretend that we're something else, that everything is fine, but the Bible says we are dead. *Col. 2:13 says And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened (made alive) together with him, having forgiven you of all trespasses (sins). So you see, we're dead because of our sin Romans 3:23a tells us "all have sinned" and Romans 6:23a says "the wages of sin is death..."* but the good news is that we don't have to stay in that dead state because *Romans 6:23b says "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* And *1 Corinthians 15:3 & 4 tells us that "...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."* So all we need to do is understand (admit), agree with God that I'm a sinner and believe that what Jesus did in His death on the cross was enough to pay for my sin. *Acts 16:31 says "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved..."* Then we are quickened or made alive with him just as it says in Colossians 2:13 and we are forgiven of all trespasses.

26. Peanut Butter –

What turns peanuts into peanut butter? Heat and pressure! Sometimes we have to go through hard/difficult circumstances to make us into what God wants us to be. Sometimes Mom and Dad have to correct us or punish us. It's not because they're being mean, but because they know what needs to be done to get us to be the right end product. *Hebrews 12:11 says "ow no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous, nevertheless afterward it yeildeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby"*

27. Drinking Straws –

Have 2 straws 1 has multiple pin holes in it. Have 2 kids come to drink. For one it will be easy for the other – hard.

Have you ever tried to drink using a straw that has a hole or holes in it? It doesn't work too well. That reminds me of what it's like when we sin. When we sin as Christians our fellowship with God is damaged, like the straw, and no matter how hard we try the "flow" between us and God just isn't the same. The more we sin, the more holes get punched into the straw and the farther away we feel from God. The "flow" is just not right. God is still there, he hasn't moved, but something is wrong. *But in 1 John 1:9 it is written to believers that "When we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* It's like he takes that straw with the holes away and gives a good straw and now the "flow" or relationship is restored so we can drink in all He wants for us.

28. Lunch bag –

When you see a lunch bag, what do you think of? Food, a sandwich, apple, cookies a drink? I think of possibilities of what great things God can do. There is a biography, a very short biography of a young boy in the Bible that had a "lunch bag" – his "lunch bag" had 5 loaves (rolls) of bread and 2 small fish, but he was willing to let what he had be used by Jesus. And, with that small lunch Jesus fed 5,000 men as well as women and children and they were all filled and there were 12 baskets of leftovers.. Are you willing

to be like that little boy and let God use you. Are you willing to let God use your ability to sing or play an instrument? Are you willing to use your hands and feet for God to set up chairs for Awana, to collect the offering in church, to help out at home and clean your room or set the table for dinner? Are you willing to use your hands and feet and voice to go and knock on a friend's door and invite them to Awana or tell them about Jesus using your Start Zone or Flight 3:16? Little is much when God is in it. A little boy gave Jesus a little lunch and He fed thousands. Are you willing to give to Jesus whatever it is that you have and watch Him work?

29. Treasure Chest –

What is a treasure to you? (wait for responses) There are lots of neat things in this world. Lots of things that we really like a lot. What about the Bible? What about memorizing Bible verses? *Psalm 118:162 says "I rejoice at (or in) thy word, as one that findeth great spoil (or great treasure)"* Just think about when pirates found a buried treasure, they whooped and hollered and were excited. We're supposed to get excited about our great treasure – the Bible. Money and stuff will get spent, used up or broken, but as it says in *Isaiah 40:8 "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever."* Is the Bible great treasure to you? Do you rejoice about being able to memorize God's very own words? Maybe we all need to do an attitude check and make the Bible a treasure to us.

30. Star

Psalm 147:4-5 says "He telleth the number (counts) of the stars, he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord and of great power: his understanding is infinite." I heard an advertisement on the radio for the perfect gift for the person who has everything... name a star after that person and it will be registered in the National Star Registry. I thought, how silly is that to pay money to have some person name a star. *Psalm 147:4* says they all already have names. God named them. God is so awesome he knows how many stars there are and calls them all by name. How cool is that, and yet this awesome all powerful God loved each of us so much that He sent Jesus to be born, live a sinless life, die a horrible death, and rise again the third day so that you and I could live with Him in heaven some day. That's an awful lot of love for an awesome, all powerful, holy god to show, but He did. If each of us will admit to God that we're sinners (*Romans 3:23*) and believe that Jesus' death on the cross was payment enough for our sins (*Romans 5:8*) then we will be saved. (*Acts 16:31*). How about you? Are you ready to believe that "God so loved" **you** "that He gave His only begotten Son, that" if **you** "believe in Him" **you** "shall not perish, but" **you** shall "have everlasting life"? It's that easy, but you have to make the choice yourself. I can't make it for you just like you can't make it for me. Are you ready to believe?

31. Dry Croutons –

I like croutons on salad. Or you can use them to make stuffing. That's yummy too. There are lots of good foods to eat and especially at Thanksgiving. Often times we over eat and stuff ourselves with all that good food. You know, the Bible says in *Proverbs 17:1 "Better is a dry morsel" (a crouton – or maybe two) "and quietness therewith, than a house full of sacrifices (or feasting) with strife."* God says it's better to have just a dry crouton at a peaceful meal than to have a big feast with angry talking. I know I eat a lot

better when people are kind than when they're arguing. We even digest our food better, so how about let's all try to speak kindly especially at mealtimes and use please and thank-yous and be thankful for whatever God has given us to eat whether it's a lot of our favorite foods, or just a dry crouton or two.

32. Blank CD/DVD

Is this a CD or a DVD. They look the same until you read the label to see which it is. Can people tell that you're a Christian. Do they see your label? *Galatians 5:22-23 tells us that "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering (patience), gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (self control) against such there is no law."* Nobody can find anything wrong with you when you have the fruit of the Spirit. There's no law against these attributes, or attitudes. It's not our job to look like and act like the world. We are to look like and act like Jesus.