

## The Lord Looketh on the Heart

### PURPOSE

To help listeners understand that the Lord values us by what's on the inside rather than what's on the outside

### MATERIALS

- A beautifully wrapped box with several heavy rocks inside
- A plain wrapped box with treats inside

### LESSON IDEAS

1. Show the listeners both boxes. Ask: "Which one of these boxes would most people want?"
  - a. Tell listeners that the two boxes have something to do with a story in the Old Testament.
2. Explain that the Old Testament prophet Samuel was sent by the Lord to the home of Jesse. Samuel was told that one of Jesse's sons was going to be chosen to be the next king. Jesse had many strong and handsome sons whom Samuel thought could be chosen to be the king, but the Lord chose none of them. Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13.
  - a. Ask, "Where does the Lord look when He evaluates a person?"
3. Allow the group to open both gifts.
  - a. Help them understand that our value is not based on what we look like on the outside but what we are on the inside.
4. Testify that the Lord does not judge us by our outward appearance, but by what is in our hearts.

