



TODAY'S TOPIC:
Reuse it! Seeing things in a new way.

You are welcome to use this lesson to inspire spiritual conversation in your family or youth classroom. It is written for elementary age but could be adjusted as needed.

THINKING JOB: Ask a “thinking job question” to get everyone thinking about something pertinent to the lesson. This could be asked moments or hours before your conversation.

Have I ever thought up a new way to use something I might normally throw in the trash?

Lesson

Materials	Things to Prepare	Today's Goal
As needed if you decide on a reuse it activity.		Know the importance and potential of reusing things in a new way. Seeing things in a new way is a good skill for creativity, communication, and understanding.

ACTIVITY NOTE: You might collect reuseable items in your community and then repurpose them into something new. For example, we collected plastic bottle caps over a few months and then created a mural on a wall in our building.

ASK: Who here has a reuseable water bottle? Why use a reuseable bottle? Take all answers.

- Saves energy to make less stuff.
- Conserves that supplies used to make stuff.
- Reduces the pollution of making stuff.
- Less stuff in the landfill.
- Saves money.
- Because we care about nature and our planet.
- It is fun to figure out a new use for something.

SAY: Sometimes we have something that we reuse over and over in the same way, like a water bottle or a reuseable shopping bag or a dish. And sometimes we have things that were created for one purpose but can then use in a new way.

ASK: Has anyone ever done something like that or can you think of an example?

- Glass jars to hold other things like beads or nails.
- Old clothes become cleaning cloths.
- Old egg cartons for sorting and organizing.
- Take apart or combine old furniture into something new.
- Use old paper to wrap breakable items.
- Use the back side of copy paper for notes.
- Use an old toothbrush as a cleaning tool.
- Dry lemon peel to make things smell good.
- Things that are used for craft projects.

SAY: Reusing things makes you see things in a new way. Seeing things in a new way is a good skill for creativity, communication, and understanding.

AFFIRMATION – I see usefulness in the things around me. repeat 4X

Note: Printable affirmations and coloring sheets for this lesson are available at <https://www.milehichurch.org/youth-family/> .