

# FAST for CHANGE



## CHILDREN'S FEATURES & CONVERSATIONS

### Learning to Share

This fun all-age talk looks sharing. The leader enacts three bad ways of sharing, then a good way.

*Props required:*

- *Small glass of 'strawberry milkshake' – or similar;*
- *Empty glass and glass jug containing a small amount of orange juice;*
- *One large and one small slice of cake, each on a small plate;*
- *Bags of sweets.*

Leader: Today I want to explain what it means to share. And I thought the best way would be to show you what I mean with a demonstration. So can I have a volunteer? Who'd like to share this delicious strawberry milkshake with me?

*[Choose a volunteer – let them come up to the front – get name.]*

Ok. So I'm going to share this delicious strawberry milkshake with [name]. First of all I'm going to drink my half. Then you can drink your half. Does that sound like a good idea? Ok, here goes.

*[Drinks all of the milkshake. The volunteer is frustrated/perplexed. Leader notices this with comic surprise after finishing the milkshake.]*

What's the matter? You look perplexed. Even a little angry!

*[Coax the volunteer to explain they are upset because they didn't get their half.]*

Oh. I'm sorry. You see the problem was: my half was at the bottom! So I had to drink it all to... Hmm? That didn't work. Why didn't it work?

*[Get answers from the children/congregation and reflect back so everyone is clear what sharing really means.]*

Ok. Let's try again. Can I have another volunteer?

*[Second volunteer comes forward – get name.]*

Ok. Here. You've got a glass tumbler and I've got a jug of orange juice. Now, these things are not good on their own! Your tumbler is empty – so that's no good – and I can't drink out of a jug – so why don't we share? We can put these things together and then we can share. Does that sound like a good idea? Great! So if you let me have your tumbler...

*[Leader pours juice (there's only a small amount) into the glass, then drinks it all.]*

Mmmmm! That was delicious. I love sharing...

*[Notices volunteer looks upset.]*

Ah! Don't tell me! This hasn't worked either, has it? Why is that?

*[Get answers and reflect back so everyone is clear what sharing means.]*

Ok. Third time lucky. This time we'll definitely get it right. Can I have a third volunteer. Does anyone like cake?!

*[Third volunteer comes forward.]*

Right. Here are two slices of cake. One for you and one for me. That's sharing!

*[The leader makes a show of taking the massive slice – while the volunteer gets a tiny slice.]*

Great! So now we both got cake! This is sharing, isn't it? Is this OK? You don't look happy? What's wrong? Oh. I see! I've got the big slice and you've got that tiny slice. You've hardly got anything and I've got loads.

*[Talking to volunteer.]* Let's think about this. So if you had these two pieces of cake, which piece would you give me?

*[If the volunteer says 'I'd give you the big slice' – you say, 'Well, I have got the big slice' – then messily eat the big slice.]*

*[If the volunteer says 'I'd give you the little slice' – you say, 'So if you were me, you'd give you the little slice? Well, why are you complaining, you've got the little slice!' Then messily eat the big slice.]*

*[After finishing cake.]* Hang on! It's gone wrong again, hasn't it? Why is that?

*[Get answers and reflect back so everyone is clear what sharing means.]*

Ok. Let's try one final time. I've got a bag of sweets here. Now what's the best way to share them out?

*[Get answers and reflect back so everyone understands that the sweets should be shared equally. This time, the sweets are shared out evenly.]*

So, what have we learned today? We've learned how not to share – by keeping everything for yourself. And we've learned a good way of sharing – which means sharing something out with everyone? And which is the best way?

*[Depending on the context, you can then expand on Paul's message to the Corinthians about sharing – perhaps making the point that churches around the world should share their resources – leading on to a plug for donations to your local relief and development agency]*

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