Date: 12/24/2016

Title: Room for Jesus!

Theme: We must make room in our hearts for Jesus. He really wants to come in.

Objects: A basket and toys that will overfill the basket leaving no room for a gift-wrapped box that represents Jesus.

Texts: John 3:16, Isa 9:6, Matt 1:21. Gal 4:4-5, 2 Cor 9:15 printed out and stuck to the five sides of a gift-wrapped box that represents the gift of Jesus.

Is anyone getting excited about Christmas?

Who knows when Christmas is coming this year?

Tonight is Christmas eve, and boys and girls get so excited thinking about the presents they will get that they can hardly get to sleep.

When I was a kid, I hated to get clothes for Christmas. All I wanted was toys.

Well I brought a whole collection of toys in my bag today.

Here’s the basket that represents a kid’s life.

This kid loves toys, so we’re going to try to cram as many toys as possible into this kid’s life.

[Pick out each toy from the bag and put it in the basket. Fill the basket to overflowing.]

Now this kid has so many toys, we can’t cram one more thing into his life.

But now we have a problem. Because at the bottom of my bag I found a beautiful gift-wrapped box.

This box represents God’s greatest gift to each of us: Jesus.

Look! There are some Bible verses on the box that tell us about this wonderful gift.

[Read and comment on each verse]

Now there’s a problem here. There is no room in our basket for Jesus!

Do you know that’s exactly what can happen in our lives?

We can get so busy with all the fun and interesting things that we don’t have much room for Jesus.

He can easily get crowded out.

We can get so interested in our toys and having fun playing that we forget about Jesus.

We don’t take time to pray, or listen to Bible stories, or think of Jesus and how much He loves us.

And some kids don’t take time to come to church and SS each week to worship the Lord and to learn more about Him.

We don’t take time to think about what Jesus wants us to do, how He wants us to treat others, to be loving, and kind, and obedient to our parents and teachers.

There is nothing wrong with toys or having fun playing with them.

But let’s be careful not to let our toys crowd Jesus out of our lives.

Jesus wants to be your most important Friend.

There will come a day when you grow up and you won’t be interested in toys anymore. You’ll put all your toys away in a box in the closet somewhere.

Instead of playing with baby dolls, you may have a real baby of your own.

Toys are only fun for kids. But no matter what age we are, we always need Jesus to be our Savior and Lord.

Would you like to make Jesus more important than your toys?

Let’s ask Him to help us to make that choice today.