

# FILL THEM WITH GOD'S KINDNESS ☆

**A demonstration to show what can happen when we display God's kindness, mercy, and love without favoritism.**

## TOPICS:

Anger, Favoritism, Kindness, Love, Mercy

## MATERIALS:

Two clear plastic cups  
Popped popcorn  
Pitcher of water  
Flat tray for collecting water  
Marker



## DURATION:

Approximately 12 minutes

## WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Start by labeling the two cups "Jed" and "Ted" with the marker. Then, place the two empty cups on the flat tray. You will add a small amount of popcorn into the cup labeled "Ted." Then you will pour water into both cups until the water overflows into the flat container, demonstrating how overflowing someone with kindness, mercy, and love (water) can remove anger and hate (popcorn) from a person's life.

## WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

We are going to demonstrate what can happen when we fill up a person with God's kindness, mercy, and love. The water in this pitcher represents God's kindness, mercy, and love, while this popcorn represents anger, bitterness, and bad choices. These two cups look about the same. Let's pretend these cups are babies that were just born. One is named Jed, and the other is named Ted. They were born in homes that were very different. Jed grew up with a very loving and God-fearing family. Meanwhile, Ted grew up in a home filled with violence and anger.

As these two boys grew up, Jed became a nice person, loved by everyone. *(Fill Jed's cup 1/2 full with water.)*

However, Ted had a hard time at home and became bitter and angry. *(Add a little popcorn to Ted's cup.)*

As the children grew older, they started to go to school together. Jed did well at school and at home. Many people were kind to him and loved him. *(Add more water to Jed's cup to make it overflow.)* Jed was overflowing with God's kindness, mercy, and love.

On the other hand, Ted didn't do so well at school, or at home. People didn't want to be his friend. Teachers yelled at him, and he was grounded most of the time for making bad choices. *(Add a little more popcorn into Ted's cup.)*

One year, the two boys had the same class together. Jed felt badly for Ted. Ted was mean to everyone, and no one was ever nice to him. Then, one day, Jed got an idea. Maybe Ted might start becoming nice if he was shown God's kindness, mercy, and love, no matter how mean Ted was.

Jed began to share his lunch with Ted every day, although Ted just threw it back at him. *(Pour a little water into Ted's cup.)* Jed asked Ted to be his partner in math class, although Ted just moved to the other side of the table. *(Pour some more water into Ted's cup.)* Jed would sharpen Ted's pencils for him, although Ted continued to break all of Jed's pencils. *(Pour more water into Ted's cup until it is about to overflow. The popcorn should be floating at the top.)*

Finally, Jed was just about to give up showing God's kindness, mercy, and love to Ted when Jed decided to try one more time. Jed walked up to Ted and said, "I would like to be your friend, Ted. Would you like to be mine?" *(Pour more water into Ted's cup until it overflows and the popcorn is pouring out of the cup.)*

Ted thought for a moment, and then something happened. He looked at Ted and blurted out, "OK!"

## Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Ted kept being mean when Jed tried to be nice?
2. Why do you think Ted finally decided to be nice and become Jed's friend?
3. Why should we show kindness, mercy, and love, even to someone who is mean? *(Our Father in Heaven is kind, merciful, and loving to the ungrateful and the wicked. He does not show favoritism. He wants us to be the same way to others.)*