

## Focus Points

"Focus Points" are short activities that draw students into the lesson. They take only a few minutes to do. Many can be used as quick-start activities to engage the students and focus their attention at the beginning of class. Others may fit well during the lesson to reinforce a point and drive it home. Still others may serve as good wrap-up activities. "Focus Points" come in many forms. Choose and use them as you see fit.

### Focus Point – Abram and Melchizedek

***Genesis 14:18*** *And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)<sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;<sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.*

Use some props: e.g., ten coins or dollar bills, ten pieces of costume jewelry, ten pieces of fruit, vegetables, cheese, etc. Also one large uncut sandwich roll and a bottle of wine.

Place the bread and wine together, separate from the other things.

Ask the class if they have any idea what Bible story the props relate to. It will be interesting if some students think about the Last Supper or the Memorial Service.

Now do the following: take one-tenth (a tithe) of the money, jewelry, and food items and place it with the bread and wine. Put the remaining nine-tenths into a clean trash bag and put the bag into a wastebasket. Ask the students what this symbolizes.

Then read Genesis 14:18-24 together and see if they can more accurately interpret the things you have done. Talk about Abram's attitude and priorities in this story.