

# Activity: God Uses Our Abilities

By Karen Noal



**FAMILY TIME**  
TRAINING

Teaching Goal: God wants us to be aware of our abilities and use them for ministry.

Scripture: Exodus 31:3 ...and I have filled him with the spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts.

Exodus 31:1-11 List of names of skilled workers and work needed to be done for the tent of meeting (where the Israelites were going to worship).

Materials: Paper  
Pencil or marker  
Peanut with shell  
LEGOS, blocks or other age appropriate building materials

In Advance: Put the peanut in your pocket, out of sight.

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and discussion

✓ Words written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. **ACTIVITY #1: A long time ago when Moses led the Israelites, they needed a place to worship. God knew that many people would be needed and that they would need special abilities and skills to complete what He wanted done. God provided the skills and knowledge to the people he had chosen to do His work. Some people think that only preachers or teachers are important to God's work. That's not true. God needs people with all kinds of abilities and skills.**

**Let's build a building with these blocks. If we were to build a church what kinds of materials would we need and what kind of skills would be needed to complete the building?** *Help children to recognize all that goes into a building and how many skills are needed to make it. Architect, cement and brick layers, carpenters, plumbers, furnace and A/C installers, carpet layer, decorator etc.* While children are building, tell them about everything and everyone that was needed to build the tent of meeting.

Materials  
Gold, Silver, Bronze  
Stones  
Wood  
Tents

Skills  
Artistic Designers  
Stone Cutters  
Carpenters  
Tent Makers

**FAMILY TIME TRAINING**

Ark  
Furniture  
Clothing  
Perfumes & Incense

Craftsmen  
Furniture Makers  
Tailor  
Scent Maker

**God provides people with skills and He wants us to use our skills and abilities to serve Him.**

**B. ACTIVITY #2: Be sure you have the peanut in your pocket. I have something in my pocket that has never been seen or touched by anyone anywhere ever before!!! Would you like to guess what it is?** Play this up. Get the children to wondering how it got in your pocket if no one has seen or touched it before. After a few minutes of not being able to guess, pull out the peanut. Children will at first say they've seen a peanut before. Crack open the peanut. **You may have seen a peanut before but this particular nut has never ever been seen or touched by human hands. It grew inside of this shell, and this is the very first time the shell has ever been opened.**

**Like this ordinary peanut shell, we are ordinary people but we have something inside of us that maybe no one has ever seen before. God has given us skills and abilities that He wants to be able to use in our lives. He gives us knowledge and new skills every day. We might not be able to see it in ourselves or in other people but it's there, just like no one had ever seen the inside of this peanut.**

**Few skills can be learned overnight. It takes time and practice. God is building skills in you now that He will use later. We need to be ready when God wants to use our skills.**

**C. ACTIVITY #3: Let's make a list of things you are learning to do and ways that God might use your abilities later.**

Examples:

Learning numbers	Help with accounting at church Manage money better in order to give
Cook	Help with meals for special events Cook for others, show hospitality

V. Memorize:

**God gives ability  
So He can work through me.**

VI. Close in Prayer

VII. Pass It On: Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.