



## 40 MARTYRS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

### Object Lesson

#### SUPPLIES

- A banana (or any item which can be divided into 10 pieces: carrot, 10 £1 coins, strip of paper, etc.)

#### ACTIVITY STEPS

1. Tell the participants that you are going to talk about putting God first in your life—with your money, your times, everything. What does it mean to put God first? (Make time for Him, make sure that you give your time or offering before doing other things, etc.)
2. Then tell the participants you are focusing on money today. Pretend that you are given £10 to last you for an entire week. That £10 is the same as a whole banana. What is the first thing you should do if you want to put God first? (Take out your offering and put it aside.)
3. Now, let's pretend you don't do that because you get the money on Monday and you don't have church until Sunday.
4. On Tuesday, your school is having a book fair, so you go buy something. It's not all of your money, but it is some. You still have enough for God. (Take a bite of the banana.)
5. On Wednesday you really, really want a bar of chocolate. So you buy that. You still have money for offering. (Take another bite.)
6. On Thursday, you give a pound to a friend. Now, that is a good thing to do so you think it is a good decision. You still have some money left for the offering. (Take a bite.)
7. On Friday, you want to buy some chips on your way home so you pay £1. There's still a little bit of money left for God... (take a bite).
8. On Saturday, you really, really want to hang out with your friends who are going to get ice cream, so you buy your ice cream (eat the rest of the banana).
9. Now it is Sunday, and look! There's only the peel left. Is that good enough for God? The scraps?
10. We don't want to give God the scraps! He deserves to be put first! The banana peel is like the pennies left in your wallet at the end of the week.
11. If you had started out by putting your offering by itself, then you would have made different decisions. You wouldn't have decided to spend all of your money, because some of it was already destined to go to God.



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think doing things this way is putting God first or last in our lives? (Last)
2. How can we put God first in this story? (Make sure that an off is set aside for God at the beginning of the week.)
3. Why do you think that the martyrs were able to give their lives for their faith? (Because they knew that it is important to put God first in their lives and had lots of practice living this way.)