

Balloon vs. Bottle

First we found a glass bottle with a smaller opening at the top. We then filled a water balloon to a little larger than the opening of the jar. Then we rubbed a little water around the rim of the bottle and asked my boys to try and push the balloon into the bottle. They couldn't. So, I explained that there was a way for that balloon to get sucked into the bottle. This intrigued them. So, then I lit a small strip of paper on fire and dropped it into the bottle. My oldest son set the water balloon on top of the bottle and I watched as four pair of eyes widened with curiosity as that balloon was literally sucked into the bottle like magic.

The physics: the warmer air on the inside of the bottle takes up more room than cool air. Once the fire goes out, after putting the balloon on top of the bottle, the air cools and then takes up less room. That makes more space inside the bottle causing the pressure of the air from the outside to push the balloon into the bottle.

But before we could try it again, we needed to get that balloon out. They took turns trying to pull it out. No luck. I told them that there was *one* way out. A straw! With the balloon still inside the bottle, we placed the straw inside, grabbed the tip of the balloon and easily pulled it out.

The balloon got caught in the mouth of the bottle because no air could get around it. But, when we added the straw, it let air into the bottle. The air pressure on the inside and the outside stayed equal allowing us to pull the balloon out.

Here is the biblical truth. Ready? The balloon represents you and me. The fire and pressure on the inside of that bottle are like the literal pressure and temptation we encounter each day of our lives. And the straw is God, always and forever providing a way out.

1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”