

# Taiwan Bubble Tea & God's Word

## Background

Bubble tea, also known as boba tea, has been an important part of Taiwan's tea culture since the 1980s. Recently, while visiting a tea stand near my church in Chiayi City, Taiwan, I noticed a few things about bubble tea that reminded me of scripture and my job as a missionary and teacher. Here's how the popular drink helps me remember scripture as I share God's love with my community in Taiwan.

## 1. The Milk Tea – Remembering God the Father

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:27 (ESV)**

God made all people, loves them, and wants them to be with Him forever in Heaven. When I see the milk tea, I remember the sweetness of a great and loving God. I want to tell everyone how He made our incredible world, takes care of us, and loves us more than we can imagine!

## 2. The Straw – Remembering God the Son

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6 (ESV)**

Jesus, God's Son, is our loving Savior. He died on a cross to take away the sin that separates us from God. When I see the straw poking out of the cup, I remember how Jesus gave His life to save us. I want to tell everyone how He beat sin, death, and Satan. Only Jesus can save us. He is our redeemer and friend!

## 3. The Boba Pearls – Remembering God the Holy Spirit

For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. **Ephesians 2:8 (ESV)**

The Holy Spirit gives us our faith, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. When I see the boba pearls, I remember how the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel, helping us live our lives according to God's Word. I want to tell everyone the Good News, God's gift of salvation through His Son, Jesus. I want to share the joy of life in Christ!

# Taiwan Bubble Tea Craft

(Estimated Time – 15 minutes)

## Objectives

- The children will hear three scripture verses related to sharing the Gospel.  
(Genesis 1:7, John 14:6, Ephesians 2:8)
- The children will create a Taiwan bubble tea craft to recall the related Bible verses.
- The children will summarize the message of the Bible verses related to sharing the Gospel.

## Materials

- 9 oz paper cups (tan, off-white, or white color)
- Construction paper (tan, off-white, or white color)
- Scrap paper – any color
- Black markers
- Scissors
- Glue (bottles with a sponge applicator tip work well)
- Single Hole Paper Punch (optional)
- 2 ½ inch paper punch (optional)
- Paper or plastic straws cut in half (regular or wide diameter)

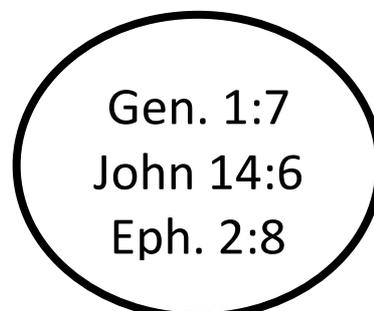
## Step 1

*(Share the background story, and “Remembering God the Father” with the children before or during steps 1-4. Display the scripture verses in a large space or print them on paper for the students to see.)*

- Using a black marker, write the scripture verse references on the bottom of the cup.

### Teaching younger children?

- Write or print the verse references for the bottom of the cups before the students arrive.



## Step 2

- Turn the cup upside down on the construction paper. Using a black marker, draw a wide circle around the cup. (Don't worry if it's not perfect.)
- Cut out the circle, making sure it's still a little larger than the cup opening.

### Teaching younger children?

- Prepare the circles before the students arrive. (A 2 ½ inch paper punch works nicely.)



## Step 3

- With a scissors, cut small incisions around the perimeter of the paper circle.
- Using the tip of a scissors or the paper hole punch, make an opening for the straw.
- Fold the perimeter of the circle upward, preparing it for the cup.



## Step 4

- Crumple scrap paper to fill the cup  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. (Two half sheets of 8 ½ x 11 paper work nicely.) Place the paper in the cup. This is the "milk tea."
- Apply glue to the up-turned edges of the paper circle.
- Place the paper circle on top of the crumpled paper. Gently press the up-turned edges of the paper against the sides of the cup. (Younger ones will likely need some assistance.)



## Step 5

*(Share "Remembering God the Son" with the children before or during step 5.)*

- Place a straw into the paper circle opening on top of the cup.



## Step 6

*(Share "Remembering God the Holy Spirit" with the children before or during step 6.)*

- Using a black marker, draw and fill small black circles on the bottom 1/3 of the cup. These are the "boba pearls" resting on the bottom.



**Congratulations! You've finished the Taiwan Bubble Tea Craft project. Enjoy your "tea" and the knowledge that God made you, saved you, and gives you your faith!**

Mindy Thews  
Missionary & Teacher  
Concordia Middle School  
Chiayi City, Taiwan