

Alley SG - January 27-28, 2018

Bible Truth: Pennies for Heaven (The Widow's Offering) • *Mark 12:41-44*

Bottom Line: Practice living for God.

Key Question: How can you live for God?

Memory Verse: "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come." *1 Timothy 4:8, NIV*

1. Just For Fun

What You Need: A penny (1 per group)

What You Do:

- **Give** kids a category. Category examples could be:
 - Sports
 - Songs
 - Books
 - Colors
 - Vegetables
 - Superhero movies
 - Favorite childhood TV characters
- **Spin** a penny on a **flat surface**.
- **Challenge** kids to work as a group to name as many items related to the category before the coin stops spinning.

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bibles, index cards (1 per kid), pens

What You Do:

- **Read** Mark 12:41-44.
- **Give** each kid an index card and a pen
- Using one sentence, kids **answer** the following question on their index card:
 - If you had to say what was the most important take away from the story, what would it be?
- **Collect** the cards, **shuffle** them and fan them out face down in front of the kids.
- **Ask** one student to go first and draw a card.
 - That student should read the sentence on the card in a super-short phrase (3 or 4 words).
 - Repeat the process a couple more times, as you have volunteers.
- **Review** the words and **discuss**:
 - Are any of the words the same? Do the words convey the same thing?
 - Do the words capture what message Jesus was telling His disciples and us? Why or why not?

3. Discussion Questions

- Imagine you have a million dollars and you gave the church \$1,000. What affect, if any, do you think giving the money would have on your day? What does your gift to the church say about your faith and your relationship with God?
- Now imagine you have \$5 and you gave the church \$2. What affect, if any, do you think giving the money would have on your day? What does your gift to the church say about your faith and your relationship with God?
- **Read** 1 Timothy 4:8.
- **Ask:**
 - What are ways you train your body? What are the benefits of training your body?
 - What does it mean to “be godly”? What is the value of “being godly”? What can you do to train to “be godly”?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Bible, “Rebus Verse” Activity Pages (1 per kid – 4 puzzles one sheet back to back), pens

What You Do:

- **Give** kids a “Rebus Verse” Activity Page and a pen.
- **Let** students have a few minutes **solve** the puzzles to read what God says about how He wants us to live.
- Kids can **check** their answers using the verse reference on each puzzle.
- **Review** the verses and **discuss** what each verse says about how God wants us to live.
- *Additional challenge: As a group or individually, **create** a rebus for the memory verse to share with someone.*
- **Answer Key:**
 - Rebus 1: *Do not steal. Tell the truth. Do not be jealous of others. (Exodus 20:15-17)*
 - Rebus 2: *Think and talk about good things. (Philippians 4:8)*
 - Rebus 3: *Treat people fairly. Show kindness. Be humble. (Micah 6:8)*
 - Rebus 4: *Love God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind and all your strength and love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:30-31)*

5. “God Time” Take Home Sheets

NOTE: The God Time sheets are intended to be a closing time activity each week in The Alley. Children will begin working on their sheets, as well as be encouraged to bring their sheets back the following week for **\$3 in Alley Cash**. Children cannot turn in their sheets the same week. The goal is to keep the lesson on their minds and in front of them throughout the following week.

CLOSING PRAYER: “Dear God, Your ways are perfect! And You gave us Your Word to help teach us how You want us to live. Help us this week to live a life You want us to live, to be focused on You and on Your ways, and to show the world with the way we act and talk that we trust You no matter what. Amen.”