

CITY SG – November 2 - 3, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Good (Every Good and Perfect Gift) • *James 1:17a*

Today's Bottom Line: God gives us good things.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from God. James 1:17a (NIRV)*

Monthly Virtue: Generosity—Making someone's day by giving something away

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: blank 5x8" index cards, and markers

What You Do:

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Welcome kids with a high five!
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Ask: "Have you ever seen a postcard or received one in the mail?"
- Give each kid a blank index card.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to turn the index card into a postcard.
- Invite the kids to draw a picture on one side of the index card.
- Encourage the kids to think of someone they'd like to give their postcard to.
- Instruct them to write that person's name and a message for them on the other side of the index card.
- Invite kids to share their drawings with the group, and their notes—if they'd like to!
- Encourage the kids to deliver their postcards to the recipients, if possible, in the next few weeks.

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Where's the Good Gift?

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible (marked at James 1:17a), "Good Gifts" Activity Page (one per kid), markers

What You Do:

- Invite a kid to read James 1:17a from the marked Bible.
- Ask: "What are some good gifts you've experienced in your life?"
- Give each kid a "Good Gifts" Activity Page.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to find the images of "good gifts" and circle/color them in.
- Once the kids have finished, invite the kids to share, compare, and discuss what they picked.
- Ask, "Is there anything that doesn't look like a good gift, but actually is a good gift?" (For example: rain, sleep, etc.)
- Say, "Sometimes, we might see a rainy day as something not very good. But rain cleans everything around us, provides water for animals and insects to drink, helps flowers and plants to grow, and so much more!"

2. “Thank You, God” Envelope

Application Activity

What You Need: Large envelope (one per service), plain paper, markers

What You Do:

- Ask some of the following questions to help kids think about what they’re thankful for:
 - What’s your favorite gift you’ve ever received?
 - Where do you like to visit?
 - What’s your favorite food?
 - Who is someone who helps you on a regular basis?
 - Name one of your friends at school, on your sports team, or in your neighborhood.
- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Display the “Thank You, God” envelope and encourage kids to draw a picture (or write something) that God has given them on their paper.
 - Make additional paper available for kids who may want to draw (or write) more than one thing.
- Instruct kids to place their paper in the “Thank You, God” envelope as they finish.
 - Leaders write on the envelope:
 - To: GOD
 - From: The Kids at Parkview Church
- Say, “We all have so many things to be thankful for because **God gives us good things.**”
- Tell the kids that we are going to keep this envelope and pray over it, thanking God for all of these good gifts!

3. Memory Verse Motions

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
 - *Every good and perfect gift is from God. James 1:17a*
- After reading the verse a few times, invite kids to come up with motions for the verse.
- Challenge each kid to complete one of the following:
 - Recite the verse while the rest of the group does the motions.
 - Lead the motions while the rest of the group recites the verse.
 - Recite the verse and lead the motions while the rest of the group watches.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

“Dear God, thank You so much for the generosity You have shown us! Some gifts are big and some are small, but they are all meaningful. You give us good things. Help us see these good gifts in our lives every day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home and bring it back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to show the motions from the Memory Verse activity.