

CITY SG – November 9 - 10, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Give a Little Bit (Widow of Zarephath) • 1 Kings 17:7-16

Today's Bottom Line: You always have something to give.

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: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- High-five kids as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Ask: "What are three words that describe your week?"
- Split your group into two teams.
- Challenge each group to take turns performing their best version of the following movements:
 - jumping
 - hopping on one leg
 - dancing
 - skipping
 - singing
 - smiling
 - twirling
 - running in place
- Call out a movement for the first team to perform.
- After half a minute or so, call out another movement for the next team, and so on.
- Repeat as time and interest allow.
- **Before you go to large group say, "Today, we're going to hear about someone who gave what she could to help someone else."**

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Good Gifts

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Story Review" Activity Page, (1 per bin) playdough (one party size per kid), ½ sheet cardstock (one per kid) permanent marker (a couple per bin), and zip-top bags (one per kid)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a piece of playdough and a piece of cardstock paper.
- Instruct the kids to set their playdough on the piece of paper.
- Using the "Story Review" Activity Page, read the Bible Story Recap, pausing where indicated to direct the kids to form something with their playdough (as directed).
- Once the Bible Story Recap is complete, encourage kids to form their own gift with the playdough.
- Invite kids to share what they formed with the rest of the group.

- Set out the permanent markers.
- Give each kid a zip-top bag.
- Instruct kids to write their name on the zip-top bag and put their playdough gift inside the bag.
- Say, “It might be easy to compare yourself to other people and feel like you don’t have much. But the truth is, **you always have something to give**. Even if you don’t have a lot of ‘stuff,’ you can still be generous with what you *do* have because God has been generous to us.”

2. Encouragement Notes

Application Activity

What You Need: notecards and envelopes (one per kid), markers and pens

What You Do:

- Ask: “When did someone ‘make your day’? What did they do?”
- Explain that kids will be decorating thank you cards for a friend, family member, teacher, coach, music/dance instructor, or other person who helps them.
- Give each kid a notecard.
- Set out the markers and pens
 - Write the word “Thank You” on each card, ***or help kids write it.**
- Encourage kids to write encouraging words on the other side of the notecard with the markers or pens.
 - **Assist any kids who need help writing a person’s name or an encouraging comment.**
 - Encourage kids to imagine what might be encouraging for someone to read. For example:
 - “You are loved!”
 - “You are strong!”
 - “You are brave!”
 - “You are special!”
 - “You are smart!”
 - “Smile!”
 - “God loves you!”
 - *Draw a smiley face, heart, or flower.*
- As kids finish, have them put the card into the envelope.
- Help kids as needed to write the person’s name on the envelope.
- If time allows, let the kids decorate the outside of the envelope.
- Tell the kids to take it home so they can make someone’s day this week!
- Say, “No matter how much you have, God has given us things that we can share with others—like encouragement! How do you think it will make someone’s day to get this note?”

3. Hopscotch Verse

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bible, and floor tape

What You Do:

- Tape a hopscotch pattern on the floor with 10 sections.
- 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*
- Invite kids to repeat the verse a few times.
- Show the kids the starting place on the hopscotch board and invite kids to form a line there.

- Set out the open Bible nearby.
- Select a kid to go first on the hopscotch board.
 - During their turn, instruct each kid to jump from one square to the next as they recite the next word in the Memory Verse, saying one word for each box they step in—the reference will be in two boxes (the book of the Bible and then the chapter/verse).
 - When each kid arrives at the end of the hopscotch board, ask:
 - What's one thing you can give to others this week? (For example: time, words of encouragement to a sibling, helping a friend, etc.)

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 for all the good gifts You give us. Thank You for giving me things to give to others, help me to see all the good gifts You've given me, And be ready to make someone's day, And be ready to make someone's day, by giving something away, In Jesus' name. Amen!”
- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guide 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, be sure to give kids their bags of playdough. Also, invite kids to share their Encouragement Note with the grown-ups!