



GENEROSITY | WEEK 3 | NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Elementary Lesson

Willingly

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

Bible Story: Willingly (God Loves a Cheerful Giver) • 2 Corinthians 9:7

Key Question: How do you feel when you give?

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now

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

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35, NirV) However, sometimes generosity doesn’t come naturally to us. We want the newest and best things, or we want everyone to notice what we have. When we really enjoy the things we have, sometimes that makes it harder for us to be willing to share with others. However, with the help of God’s Spirit, we can learn that HOW we give is more important than even WHAT we give. It’s about our hearts. God showed us the ultimate example of generosity by sending Jesus. This month, we’ll take a look at how we can respond by being generous to others.

Key Question: How do you feel when you give? Have you ever noticed how excited some people get when they watch others open gifts? The gift isn’t even for them, and yet they can’t wait to see someone they care about receive something they’ll enjoy! Our hope for this question is that preteens will stop and think not only about why being generous is important, but also how important our attitude can be when we give.

In week 3, we take a look at Paul’s words in 2 Corinthians 9:7. Paul was writing to the church in Corinth, encouraging them to give. When we give, it pleases God—not just because of what we give, but because of the way we give it. When we give with a good attitude, we can help others see what God is like.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors Open 9:15/11:00	Large Group Starts 9:35/11:20	Small Group Starts 10:05/11:50
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LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

ROLL A TURKEY

(Big Dice - 1 per team, “Turkey” Activity Pages - a set per team)

All this month we are talking about generosity. We define it as this...

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Generosity—Making someone’s day by giving something away

Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35, Nlrv) However, sometimes generosity doesn’t come naturally to us. We want the newest and best things, or we want everyone to notice what we have. When we really enjoy the things we have, sometimes that makes it harder for us to be willing to share with others. However, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can learn that HOW we give is more important than even WHAT we give. It’s about our hearts. God showed us the ultimate example of generosity by sending Jesus. Check out our verse for the month:

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) Every good and perfect gift is from God. *James 1:17a (Nlrv)*

Take a minute to explain that ‘James’ is a book in the New Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘Nlrv’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are different translations.

More on that later, but for now, let’s play a game!

(SLIDE: ROLL A TURKEY)

(SLIDE: ROLL A TURKEY DICE with FUN MUSIC)

- HOW TO PLAY:
 - **SPLIT THE ROOM.** Depending on the size of your group, you can split into 2-5 even-ish groups. Have groups stand in a line and wait.
 - **EXPLAIN THE GAME:** Each team will be racing to be the first to assemble their turkey. The person in the front of the line will roll the dice and retrieve the corresponding part of the turkey (there are 4 pieces). If a part has already been retrieved, then that player goes to the back of the line. They can lay their turkey down on the stage to track the build (or you can tape them up on the wall so everyone can see the progress)

“That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let’s worship God!”

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: EVERY BEAT, NOT AFRAID)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

I’m curious how you or someone like you might feel when you face certain situations. I’ll throw out a scenario where you might GIVE something to someone. Think about it and raise your hand to tell me.

Give water to a marathon runner
Give blood
Give a solid high five
Give a hug to your sibling
Give time in detention for being late to class
Give away your childhood stuffed animal
Give a hand to help with chores at home
Give a listening ear to a friend who has a problem

Thanks so much for participating in that activity. It’s interesting, isn’t it? Sometimes when we choose to be generous we’re excited and happy to do it. Other times, we might feel . . . let’s just say, *less than excited* about it. In fact, if we’re being honest, we might even say that we don’t FEEL like being generous.

“Maybe we don’t get along with the person. Maybe we’re having a bad day and want to be by ourselves. Or maybe we simply do not have much to give. What happens then? Should we ignore our feelings? Not give or be generous? Or give and be grumpy about it?”

“It’s hard to know the answers to questions like these. But guess what? People have been asking questions like this for thousands of years—even some of the people who God inspired to write the truth we find in the Bible. The Bible is like a library of writings filled with wisdom written down by

people who had personal experiences with God, and they wrote about their experiences so we could learn from them and understand how we can trust God no matter what we face!

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 5 MIN)

Now listen, you don't need a lot of stuff to be a cheerful giver. Paul wrote about examples of people who had suffered a great deal and still gave a lot even when they didn't have too much themselves. We all have SOMETHING to give, but it's not about the WHAT. It's about the WAY we give—the attitude we have while we give.

“Also, remember that when we're cheerful givers, God can do big things with our small gifts. Check this out...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

You never know how far a kind word, a helpful gesture, a cup of cold water, or the smallest amount of money can be transformed into a powerful and BIG way of showing love. But we first need to cheerfully be generous and give.

“One of the really cool things that can happen, too, is that our gifts can help people SEE God. What I mean by this is if we remember that every good gift comes from God like we talked about earlier this month, we have the opportunity to show what God is like by being the cheerful giver of those gifts. It's like we're partnering with God. How cool is that!?!

“So, once you've decided to give and to give with a good attitude—whether it's time, money, or stuff— don't focus on what you're losing. Focus on what your giving is doing in others!

Ok, let's turn to the person next to us and answer our Key Question for today.

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘How do you feel when you give?’

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1...

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let's pray.

Dear God, thank you for sending us your son, Jesus. He really is the best gift. Thank you for giving us good gifts. I pray that we worship you with our lives and have eyes to see what you've given us, and faith to wait when we don't yet see how things are going to turn out for our good and your glory. Amen.



DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: How do you feel when you give?

(Answers will vary)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: **Luke 21:1-4**

Say: “The book of Luke is in the New Testament. Jesus and his disciples were sitting in the temple (church for the Jews) and watching people give their tithe to God. Tithing is giving a portion of your money back to God as an act of worship. God asks us to honor Him by giving back 10% of what you make to Him. ‘Mites’ are like our pennies.

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(“Generosity Game” Activity page 11x17 - 1 per group, Bingo chips [or similar] - 10 per kid, dice, Bible)

What You Do:

- Have the kids sit in a circle.
- Explain that we always have something to give, and God calls us to give generously from what we have! We are going to practice that today.
- Lay down the game map in the middle of the group.
- Explain the game:
 - Every kid starts at the beginning and uses one of their bingo chips as their game token.
 - Roll the dice and move forward those spaces.
 - The squares have every day situations written on them. Kids have a choice of what they want to give or even how much (*A missionary [someone who goes to*

somewhere that's not their home specifically to share the good news of Jesus] comes to your church? Choose how many of your tokens you want to give to help them reach people for Jesus overseas).

- If they would rather NOT give a token(s) – they can say what they would give instead. (*Instead of 'buying their sad friend ice cream' [a token], they can give them a hug and pray with them*).
- Don't explain what the end goal of the game is. Simply have kids go through the game and wonder!
 - The point is NOT who ends up with the most/least chips at the end of the game. The point is to give what you have and have faith that God will take care of you if you are a cheerful giver.
 - At the end, kids count up the amount of tokens they have left. Draw attention to the fact that most people have different amounts.
 - **SAY:** "Do you remember the story we just read about the widow giving two pennies? Because she didn't have a lot of money in the first place – it was a big deal that she gave that much back to God! She had faith that God was going to take care of her and she understood that it was important to be generous. She didn't have a bad attitude because she had less money than the rich men. In the same way, we don't have to dwell on what others have. We can be happy and cheerful with the amount that God has given us."
 - **ASK:**
 - What is hardest for you to give away?
 - Have you ever grumbled or complained when you gave something away?
 - How has God been generous with you?

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

- Follow the instructions of the "Books of the Bible" activity that is in your bin.

PRAYER

"God, please help us to have eyes to see the needs around us and to have a compassionate and generous heart to give what we have cheerfully. Help us to love others the way that you love us. Amen.