



GENEROSITY | WEEK 4 | NOVEMBER 24, 2024

Elementary Lesson

Show Me How to Live

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

Bible Story: Show Me How to Live (Love in Action) • 1 John 3:16-18

Key Question: When has someone been generous to you?

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: When has someone been generous to you? Can you think of a moment when you really needed something, and someone came through for you? Maybe it was something small, like lending you a pen . . . or maybe it was something bigger, like letting you borrow their car. When we think about the moments when others have helped us, we see how we can be there for others too.

We close out the month in 1 John 3:16-18. John was writing to a group of believers to encourage them and remind them about Jesus’ love for them. John described how Jesus gave the greatest example of love when He gave His life for us. To love IS to give. Whether we give our time, our talent, or our things, we can show the love of Jesus when we give to those in need.

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

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)

FLIP TAC TOE

(Floor Tape, Water bottles - 1 per team, at least 2 Different colored post it notes or papers - 6 each 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, NIV) 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 (NIV)*

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’. ‘NIV’ 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: FLIP TAC TOE)

(SLIDE: FUN MUSIC)

- HOW TO PLAY:
 - **PREP:** Create a tic-tac-toe grid with the floor tape.
 - **SPLIT THE ROOM.** Depending on the size of your group, you can split into 2-5 evenish groups. Have groups stand in a line. Each team will get a water bottle and 6 of a colored post it note/paper (so team 1 gets 6 red, team 2 gets 6 blue, team 3 gets 6 purple, etc.)
 - **EXPLAIN THE GAME:** Give the first person in line a water bottle. They flip it and try to make it land correctly. If they do, then they get to run up and mark their team's spot on the grid. If they do not, then they run to the back of the line and the next person goes. First team to get three in a row wins!
 - *If you have more than two teams, still play on the same grid, but if all of the spots are filled up, they can remove another team's color to put their own down. OR you can have multiple games going at once.*

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: NOT AFRAID, STAR OF THE MORNING)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"It's so great to be together again. We've had such a great month together talking about how we can trust God with the way we show generosity! It's had me thinking about all the ways people have shown generosity to me over the years.

Maybe you've had an experience when someone was generous to you when you didn't expect it or know someone who has experienced generosity so surprising that it stops you in your tracks and blows you away with gratitude that people could be so generous. It's that kind of generosity that honestly reminds me of Jesus!

"Jesus literally gave EVERYTHING, even His own life for us! I sometimes wonder: *How can I give like Jesus?* Like how can the way we show generosity reflect the same sort of amazing love that Jesus showed to us? That sort of giving seems rather impossible for us to even attempt. But what if God were to give us the strength to show some amazing generosity to people in our lives?

"These can be good—but hard—questions to think through. And where is the best place to start when we have hard questions? *(Pause for responses.)* That's right! The Bible. The people who wrote the books of the Bible had personal experiences with God—several of them even knew Jesus! God inspired them to write down what they learned from these experiences so others could understand how to follow Jesus, too. And today's truth from the Bible will definitely help us with

these sorts of questions about what it means to show generous love like Jesus. Let's check it out!

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 4 MIN)

We have an incredible model for what it means to put love into action—Jesus gave Himself for us, and now we have countless opportunities to be like Jesus and give ourselves and our love to other people.

“Of course, this will change depending on what the day brings . . . at home this might look like how you show love to your mom by cleaning the dishes instead of rushing to play your video games. At school, this might look like letting someone else take a turn on your favorite playground equipment before you. On the field or court, it might look like passing the ball to a teammate instead of trying to take the shot and getting the glory for yourself. And there are so many other places where you can share Jesus' love generously with others like church, in your neighborhood, or the local park.

“The more we see people and look at their needs with the eyes of God's generosity, the more we'll see moments where we can love, not just by using our words, but by putting our words into action!

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

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘When has someone been generous to you?’

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.

Bible Story: Show Me How to Live (Love in Action) • *1 John 3:16-18*

Key Question: When has someone been generous to you?

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)*

TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

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

Key Question: When has someone been generous to you?

(Answers will vary)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

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

Look Up: *1 John 3:16-18*

Say: “The book of 1 John is in the New Testament.

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(Construction paper heart, Bible, “Cause and Effect” Activity Page – 1 per group., optional: ‘When You Give a Mouse a Cookie’ book)

What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to sit in a circle.
- Join the circle yourself, holding the Bible, the book, and the construction paper heart.
- Open the marked Bible to 1 John 3:16-18 and read it out loud to the group.
- Ask: “What are some ways we can show God’s love to others by giving to them or helping them?”
- *Optional:* Hold up the book: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*
- Ask: “Has anyone read this book?”
- *Optional:* If a lot of kids aren’t familiar with the book, read parts of the book to explain how the book is set up. It is a cause-and-effect story (if ‘this’, then ‘that’ happens).
- Start with a prompt. Encourage the kid to add an idea of what could happen next to show how helping that kid could lead to them to help others. *Demonstrate how to do the activity by going through the following together. Use the “Cause and Effect” sheet as a reference.*
 - Hold the heart out in front of you, and in the style of *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* say: “You can help a kid see Jesus, by tying their shoes when their arms are full of books.” Pass the heart to the kid on your right.
 - Second kid: “Then the kid who’s holding books might go read one of the

- books to a younger kid.” Pass the heart to the kid on your right.
 - Third kid: “Then that kid may go read a book about a new kid in class’s culture.” Pass the heart to the kid on your right.
 - Continue through the “Cause and Effect” example sheet.
- Start new prompt. You can help someone see Jesus by seeing the dirty dishes in the sink and washing them without being asked by your mom.
- Keep the story going in this way.
 - *NOTE: If the story gets too complicated to add to, feel free to start a new one after a few additions.*
- Sum the story up when the heart comes back to you by going through what everyone added and noting all the ways we heard about people being generous and helping others along the way.

What You Say:

“Jesus showed us how to give. Jesus’ life is full of examples of how we can give our time, words, energy, and actions to show God’s love to others. Jesus even washed the disciples’ feet to help them see what it looks like to serve others. When we pay attention to what people around us need, we can make a difference in their lives and share Jesus’ love with them!

ASK:

- When someone is generous to you, does it inspire you to be generous to others? Why or why not?
- What has Jesus given to us?
- How should our lives be affected by what Jesus gave?
- Is it easy to follow Jesus’ example?

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Memory Verse Poster)

What You Do:

- Get those who have memorized the verse to recite it. Celebrate them!
- Have kids sit in a circle, hands out and palms up. Have them put their RIGHT hand on TOP of the person to their right’s hand. It will create a weave pattern, so everyone has their right hand on top and their left under someone else’s hand. This is a ‘down by the banks’ style game.
- Have someone start. Everyone will say the verse. With each word they will ‘pass’ a high-five around the circle by using their right hand to cross over and slap the person on their left’s hand (then they return their hand back to where it was).
- Do one round so everyone understands. Then repeat, but whoever the last part of the verse lands on is out and the circle shrinks. Repeat until you have a winner.

PRAYER

“God, thank you for being generous in sending us your son, Jesus. He is the greatest gift. I pray that we can be generous and show Your love to others. Amen.

