

WEEK TWO - NOVEMBER 2024 - SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: Widow of Zarephath | 1 Kings 17:7-16 Bottom Line: You always have something to give Memory Verse: "Every good + perfect gift is from God." – James 1:17a (NIrV) Virtue: Generosity – Making someone's day by giving something away Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Series Overview: 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.

Bottom Line: You always have something to give. Can you think of a time when someone gave something to you or shared with you, even when they didn't have much to give? Just the fact that they thought of you made their gift so much more meaningful. When we trust God with what we have, God is able to do more than we can think or imagine.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 - 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

• Greet each kid by name as they arrive.

- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the FATW bag.
- Split your group into two teams.
- Challenge each group to take turns performing their best version of the following movements:
 - \circ jumping
 - \circ hopping on one leg
 - o dancing
 - o skipping
 - \circ singing
 - \circ smiling
 - o twirling
 - o 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.

What You Say:

"Wow! It was really fun watching you do your best movements! Which movement was your favorite? (Invite responses.) Many of you gave your best with those movements! [Transition] Today, we're going to hear about someone who gave what she could to help someone else. Follow me!"

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 - 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Large Group Overview: In week 2, we read about a miracle found in 1 Kings 17:7-16. During a time of drought, the prophet Elijah visited a widow in Zarephath. This woman barely had anything left for her family, let alone for him. Yet, she trusted God and gave everything she had to Elijah . . . and God provided for them above and beyond what they expected.

9:50 - 10:10 | 11:50 - 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

Encouragement Rocks! [Live for God | Application Activity]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Rocks, paper plates, paint markers (or painting supplies), and hand wipes

What You Do:

- Share that kids will be creating encouragement rocks to give away so they can make someone's day!
- Give each kid a paper plate and one or two rocks.
- Set out the paint markers (or painting supplies).
- Encourage kids to imagine what might be encouraging for someone to read (or see) and to write (or draw) that on their rock. For example:
 - "You are loved!"
 - "You are strong!"
 - "You are brave!"
 - "You are special!"

- "You are smart!"
- o "Smile!"
- "God loves you!"
- o Draw a smiley face, heart, or flower.
- Give kids some time to decorate their encouragement rocks.
- Provide wipes for cleanup.
- Encourage kids to take their rocks home and place them in their neighborhood, at a park, or give them to a friend!

What You Say:

"It's exciting to see all of the encouraging words and reminders you added to your rocks! No matter how much you have, God has given us things that we can share with others—like encouragement! How do you think it would make someone feel to find one of these rocks? (Invite responses.) I can imagine it will bring people joy when they find an encouragement rock around their neighborhood, school, or home.

"Jesus showed us amazing ways to give. Even though He traveled a lot and hardly owned anything, Jesus always had kindness and help to offer the people around Him—and we do too! Remember, [Bottom Line] you always have something to give."

Pray + Dismiss [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite kids to gather together.
- Use the prompt below to lead your group in prayer.
- Ask your group to repeat each line of the prayer after you.

What You Say:

"SGL: Dear God, KIDS: Dear God,

SGL: Thank You for all the good gifts You give us, KIDS: Thank You for all the good gifts You give us,

SGL: Thank You for giving me things to give to others, KIDS: Thank You for giving me things to give to others,

SGL: Help me to see all the good gifts You've given me, KIDS: Help me to see all the good gifts You've given me,

SGL: And be ready to make someone's day, KIDS: And be ready to make someone's day,

SGL: By giving something away, KIDS: By giving something away,

SGL: In Jesus' name. KIDS: In Jesus' name.

SGL: Amen! KIDS: Amen!

As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to share their Encouragement Rocks with the grown-ups! Together, encourage the kids and grown-ups to come up with ideas for places to leave the rocks for others to find.