



WEEK THREE – NOVEMBER 2024 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *God Loves a Cheerful Giver* | 2 Corinthians 9:7

Bottom Line: *Give a good attitude*

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: Give with a good attitude. Have you ever shared something really nice with someone, but you didn’t do it with the best intentions? Maybe, if you were honest, you really didn’t want to share what you had in the first place. Our attitude makes a big difference when we give. It doesn’t matter what kind of gift you give if your heart isn’t in the right place. As Paul explained, God loves it when we give cheerfully!

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

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Paper, writing utensils, timers

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the FATW bag.
- Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen or pencil.
- Instruct kids to draw a line down the middle of their paper from top to bottom and another line from side to side in the middle of their paper to create four sections.
- Explain that you will call out a category and kids are to write down five things that relate to that category in thirty seconds.
- Share an example. If you say “plants,” a kid might write:
 - soil
 - stem
 - sunlight
 - rain
 - bloom
- Set the timer for 30 seconds.
- Start the game by calling out the first category and starting the timer.
- Some examples are:
 - animals
 - planets
 - types of gifts
 - countries
 - plants
- Play four rounds of the game.
- Instruct the kids to use a different section of their paper each round.

- After each round, invite kids to share their responses with the group, and point out what things were big or small.

What You Say:

“Everyone came up with great answers for all of the categories! Some of your thoughts were the same, and some were different. Was there anything you wrote down that is big? (Invite responses.) What about small? (Invite responses.)

[Transition] Today, we’re going to discover how something that may seem small can make a BIG difference. Let’s go!”

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

Large Group Overview: 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.

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

Chain of Giving

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Bible, “Chain of Giving: Sentences” Activity Page, “Chain of Giving: Pictures” Activity Pages, and glue sticks

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 9:7.

- Invite a kid to read the verse to the group.
- Instruct the kids to get into pairs.
 - It’s okay if there is a group of three.
- Give each pair a “Chain of Giving: Sentences” Activity Page, a set of four card cutouts from the “Chain of Giving: Pictures” Activity Page, and a glue stick.
- Instruct groups to work together to read each sentence on the “Chain of Giving: Sentences” Activity Page and fill in the blanks by gluing one image in each square.
- When each group has finished, review the sentences together as a group.
 - Paul wrote and sent _____ to the church at Corinth. (*letters*)
 - One of the letters explained that Paul’s friend _____ was coming along with the letter to the Corinthians. (*Titus*)
 - The Corinthians gave Titus an _____. (*offering of money*)
 - Titus was giving the offering of money to _____. (*Jesus-followers who were going through a hard time*).
- Instruct the groups to come together and sit in a circle.
- Challenge each kid to come up with their own idea that shows a chain of giving, using these prompts:
 - “I can give _____ to _____. _____ can _____.”
 - For example: “I can give encouragement to my sister. My sister can share her snack with a friend.”
- Continue around the circle until every kid has a chance to share.

What You Say:

*“It’s amazing how something small can become something BIG in God’s hands! We can all be generous with the gifts God has given us, but it’s also important to **[Bottom Line] give with a good attitude.** Even when we don’t feel like being generous, we can always make the choice to have a good attitude when we’re giving. When you remember that everything you already have is a gift from God, you might even be able to get excited about what your giving can do! Plus, when we give with a good attitude, it can help others see God.”*

[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time when you gave something small, but it had a big effect! Maybe you baked cookies for a friend, offered to mow a neighbor’s lawn, or gave away something that you loved.)

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Strips of construction paper, markers, stapler or tape

What You Do:

- Ask: “What are some things you have to give to others?” (*Invite responses, like: time, energy, friendship, help, etc.*)
 - Encourage kids to share something that might be harder for them to give away. (For example: sharing a toy that we want to keep to ourselves, attention to someone sharing a story, etc.)
- Give each kid a few strips of paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Direct the kids to write down something they can give on each strip of paper.
- Staple or tape the paper strips together to create a paper chain.
- Display the paper chain in your space where the kids in your group can see it.
- Close your group time in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for all of the good things You give us. Please help us to see all of those good things—big and small. Help us to share them with others, and with a good attitude! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to show them the paper chain that was created with all of the good gifts God has given us, that we can give to others!