



WEEK THREE – NOVEMBER 2024 – KINDER/FIRST

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

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.
- Instruct the kids to stand in the middle of your group space.
- Explain that you will be playing a game of “This or That,” and when kids hear the two choices, instruct them to think about which they would be willing to give away or do for someone else.
- Point out that each side of the group space represents a different choice.
- Read the first set of items from the list below, and designate a side of the group space for each choice.
- Remind kids to think about which one they would rather give away (or do to help), and direct the kids to move to make their choice.
- After the kids have made a choice, instruct the kids to return to the middle of the group space.
- Pause after a few of the choices and ask the kids to explain why they chose this or that.
- Repeat for all of the items listed below—feel free to add your own!
 - Give away a video game controller or give away a smile
 - Hold the door for someone or give away your favorite hat
 - Give away your last cookie at lunch or give a friendly hello
 - Help your sibling clean their room or forgive your friend
 - Say, “Nice job!” or give away your favorite toy
 - Give away the game ball you received after your team’s game or give a wave
 - Pray for a friend or give away your favorite treat

- Give away your favorite plush animal or share a get well note with a sick friend
- Tie a friend's shoe or give away your favorite candy
- Let a sibling choose the movie-night movie or tell someone "Great job!"
- Help a grown-up organize a closet or give away an encouraging word for your friend
- Gather kids in the middle of your group space at the end of the game.

What You Say:

"That was fun! Some of these things seemed easier to choose one or the other. Some would take more of our time or energy. It was interesting to see how we all made some different choices! [Transition] Today, we're going to discover HOW we should give no matter what it is!"

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

Props

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Prepared, medium-sized box with everyday items

What You Do:

- Place the prepared box in the middle of your group space.
- Invite the kids to gather around the box.
- Instruct the kids to take turns removing one item out of the box and sharing how they could use the item to make someone's day.
 - For example: drawing a picture for a friend, helping clean up toys, stapling a friend's paper, etc.
- After each kid has a turn, invite them to share other ways to use everyday objects in a generous way! (Like: iPads, snacks, backpacks, etc.)
- Invite kids to take turns naming different items for others to respond to.

What You Say:

“You all shared great examples of how we can use everyday things to cheerfully give to others. These may seem like small ways to give, but when we give, God can use it to do BIG things! God can help us to become more and more like Jesus, who always showed kindness and helped the people around Him.

*“The more we choose to give with a good attitude, the more we'll find ourselves making someone's day by giving something away. What we give to others may look different, but we all have something to give and we should **[Bottom Line]** give with a good attitude.”*

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:

- Share with the kids that when we remember to pray for others, we can make someone’s day by giving something away! Point out that this is what generosity means.
- Walk your group through a guided prayer time using the word J-O-Y.
 - Explain that “J” is for Jesus!
 - Start by thanking God for sending Jesus to show us amazing ways to give and how to help others.
 - Pause and allow the kids to do this quietly or out loud.
 - The “O” is for others!
 - We can pray for others by asking God to help them, or praying together with a friend.
 - Pause and allow the kids to do this quietly or out loud.
 - The “Y” is for yourself!
 - Remind the kids that God wants to help us.
 - For example, we can ask God to help us become more like Jesus and give cheerfully.
 - Pause and allow the kids to do this quietly or out loud.
- Close your group time in prayer.

What You Say:

*“Dear God, thank You for all of these friends here in our group. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us what generosity is. Please help us to be more and more like Him! Whether big or small, please help us to **[Bottom Line]** give with a good **attitude** even when we don’t feel like it. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

As adults arrive to pick up, remind the kids to pray by using our prayer reminder: J-O-Y!