



## WEEK ONE – NOVEMBER 2024 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *Every Good + Perfect Gift | James 1:17a*

**Key Question:** *What good things has God given you?*

**Memory Verse:** *“Every good and perfect gift is from God.”- James 1:17a (NIRV)*

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

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what*

**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.

**Key Question: What good things has God given you?** Sometimes we can get so caught up in the things that other people have that we forget about the good things WE have. It’s easy to hone in on our physical possessions and forget that God has blessed all of us in different ways. We hope this question invites preteens to open their minds to the various ways God cares for them.

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

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

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

**What You Need:** “Good Gift Hunt” Activity Page, timer, pen or pencil

**What You Do:**

- Welcome kids as they arrive and invite them to place their offering in the FATW bag.
- Give each kid a “Good Gift Hunt” Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Explain that the “Good Gift Hunt” contains a collection of items that kids might own.
- Give kids time to ask others in the group to sign their names next to one to three items that they have. (They cannot write their own name next to any of the items on their page.)
- Set a timer with enough time for kids to share and get a few signatures.
- Announce a winner (either whoever has the most signatures when the timer goes off or the first kid to have signatures for each item).

**What You Say:**

*“Today, we’ll discover where every gift comes from and how we all have been given good things. Let’s go hear more!”*

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

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**Large Group Overview:** We start the month with an insight from James 1:17a: “Every good and perfect gift is from God.” (NIRV) Every good thing in our lives comes from God, starting with the gift of Jesus. When we take the time to reflect on all that God has given us, we can respond by being generous to others.

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

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### **Discussion Questions**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

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

**What You Need:** N/A

### **What You Do:**

- Ask:
  - What good things has God given you?
  - How do you react when you receive a good gift?
  - Why is it so easy to focus on what we don't have?
  - What are some ways you can show your gratitude for what God has given you?

### **Make It Personal With Prayer**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** “Gratitude Prayers” Activity Page, pens or pencils

### **What You Do:**

- Invite kids to spread out and sit in your group space.
- Give each kid a “Gratitude Prayers” Activity Page and a pen (or pencil).
- Explain to kids that it's easy to spend time praying to God about the things we want.
- God wants us to ask when we are in need, but we should also spend time sharing our gratitude for what God has already given us!

- Give kids time to list different things God has given them that they are thankful for on their “Gratitude Prayers” Activity Page.
- Encourage kids to take their Activity Page home to remind them what to thank God for during prayer time.
- Lead a prayer for the entire group.