



WEEK FOUR – NOVEMBER 2024 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *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)*

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.

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.

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

Opening Small Group Activity

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

What You Need: “Cheerful Challenge” Activity Page, paper plates, markers

What You Do:

- Welcome kids as they arrive and invite them to place their offering in the FATW bag.
- Invite kids to take turns sharing about gifts they have been given that they are thankful for.
 - Kids can either illustrate their ideas, act it out, or give clues as to what their gift was.

What You Say:

“Today, we’ll discover how Jesus provided the best representation of how generosity should be a way of life for each of us.”

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

Large Group Overview: 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.

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

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:

- Seat the kids in a circle.
- Ask:
 - When has someone been generous to you?
 - 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?

Make It Personal With Prayer

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Playdoh

What You Do:

- Invite kids to form a close circle.
- Ask kids how we can learn more about Jesus' life. *(By reading about Jesus in the Bible.)*

- Explain that we can look to Jesus’ life for reminders on how to live, including how we can pray. One way we can do that is by spending time with others who pray.
- Invite kids to take turns forming the dough or clay and leading the following prayers:
 - Mold the dough into a perfect ball.
 - Explain to the group that the ball represents the earth. We can thank God for all that He has given us through creation.
 - Invite someone who wants to pray out loud, thanking God for creation.
 - Mold the dough into a cross.
 - Explain that we can thank God for sending Jesus to give up His life on the cross as the greatest act of love ever.
 - Invite someone who wants to pray out loud, thanking God for sending Jesus.
 - Mold the dough into a heart.
 - Explain that we can thank God for giving us the people in our lives that we love.
 - Invite someone who wants to pray out loud, thanking God for putting people in our lives.
 - Mold the dough into a letter, “M.”
 - Explain that the “M” stands for “Me.” Invite kids to reflect on what God has done for them.
 - Invite someone who wants to pray out loud to say a final prayer for the entire group.