

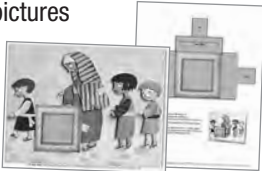


Jesus Notices a Widow's Giving

Mark 12:41-44

Young children can begin to understand the concept of giving to God in the sense of “try again.” You can encourage your little ones to do their best for God by encouraging them to try until they succeed. Let them know Jesus is happy when they can do a new thing, like take those first steps or jump up and down—just as you and their parents or caregivers are happy. Encourage young children to “show Jesus” their accomplishments, too. Thank you for giving to God as you teach his children.

INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Loving and Giving Watch the widow's act of giving.	scissors, tape, cutting blade Teacher Pack: “The Giving Widow” and “The Giving Box” teaching pictures 	Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on “The Giving Widow” picture. Then cut out the box from “The Giving Box” picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to “The Giving Widow” picture.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	I Give You My Hands Receive loving touches.		
	Give and Take Share a toy.	3 or more small toys, 2 containers	
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► Bible Point

Give to God.

Key Verse

“And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:11).


Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will practice cheerfully giving to God.





TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Cheerful Charity Give an offering along with the widow.	Bible, scissors, tape, cutting blade Teacher Pack: “The Giving Widow” and “The Giving Box” teaching pictures, multipurpose disks 	Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on “The Giving Widow” picture. Then cut out the box from “The Giving Box” picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to “The Giving Widow” picture.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Rollies Play a ball-rolling game.	soft ball	
	Ten Giving Fingers Do a finger play about giving to God.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

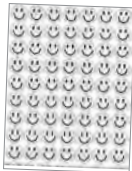

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*





2-YEAR-OLD



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>1 Getting Started</p>	<p>Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.</p>	<p>CD player Teacher Pack: CD, "Smiley Face" stickers</p>	
<p>2 Bible Exploration</p>	<p>The Gift of Laughter Learn to give from the widow's example.</p>	<p>Bible, scissors, tape, cutting blade Teacher Pack: "The Giving Widow" and "The Giving Box" teaching pictures, multipurpose disks</p> 	<p>Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on "The Giving Widow" picture. Then cut out the box from "The Giving Box" picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to "The Giving Widow" picture.</p>
<p>3 Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>Treasure Treats Make a snack together.</p>	<p>snack-foods such as fruit-flavored cereal, pretzel twists, fish-shaped crackers, and M&M's candies; small measuring cup; 1 small resealable bag per child</p>	
	<p>Giving Hands Finger-paint and make prints of their hands.</p>	<p>My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Ten Giving Fingers" page (at the end of the lesson), finger paints, paper, paint smocks, wet wipes</p>	<p>Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.</p>
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.</p>	<p>My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)</p>	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Jesus Notices a Widow's Giving

Mark 12:41-44



BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

Watching in the Temple

While Jesus—and presumably some of his disciples—sat watching in the Temple courts, numerous rich people gave large offerings of money. The disciples, who were from the lower economic classes, were probably amazed at some of the fortunes offered by these wealthy Jews.

They may not have even noticed the poor widow who dropped her two coins into the treasury box. These were the smallest coins in the Roman Empire. It took over 100 of these to make up a day's wages. In terms of today's wages, they would have been worth no more than a couple of dollars each. Yet Jesus knew how big the widow's gift was.

An Extravagant Offering

Some Christians today might consider the widow's giving foolish—she didn't have to give both coins; she didn't have to give even one coin. After all, she needed that money just to stay alive. But that kind of thinking is precisely what Jesus was teaching against. If we give only part of what we have—of what we are—to Jesus, we're holding back. Jesus wants all of us. He wants us to give him all we have and all we are and to trust him for the results.

Our Gifts

Which of the givers in this passage are you more like? As you explore this passage, challenge yourself to examine what you're giving to God. Are you giving just a small portion of your time, money, talents, and commitment to God? Is God getting the leftovers after you've taken care of all your wants? Or are you giving as the poor widow gave, risking all you have on God? The widow's choice is not an easy one, but it's one that honors God.

The Jesus Connection

Jesus isn't impressed by outward displays of wealth—he looks straight into the heart at the inward wealth of faith, commitment, generosity, and trust. He knows the *real* you.

What does Jesus see in your heart? Are you fully entrusting your needs, wants, and future to God? What are you holding back? Grab a penny, and hold it as you pray about areas of your life that you need to give over to God. You can write your prayer below. Then give that penny in your church offering as a symbol to God of your commitment.





INFANT

1 GETTING
STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Giving, Giving" (track 6 on the CD) to the tune of "Alouette" anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. As you sing "Giving, Giving," move babies' arms as though they are tossing something until you get to the word *stop*. Then clap their hands together. Shake your head and smile.

Giving, giving, giving, giving, giving.
Giving, giving, giving, giving, stop! (*gently emphasize the word stop*)

Say: **No! Giving is much more fun!** Then do the routine over again—the song plays three times on the CD.

Afterward, say: ► **GIVE TO GOD.**

Sing "Jesus Is the King" (not on the CD) to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, gently touch each baby on the head and draw a crown with your finger. Give babies gentle hugs, and tell them Jesus is king.

Jesus is the king, clap your hands.
Jesus is the king, clap your hands.
Jesus is the king. Yes! Jesus is the king.
Jesus is the king, clap your hands.

Afterward, say: ► **GIVE TO GOD.**

2 BIBLE
EXPLORATION

Loving and Giving

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As crawlers are playing on the floor or as you hold an infant, show the teaching pictures you prepared. Move the picture of the woman around, encouraging babies to follow the movement.



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: "Giving, Giving"
(track 6)

Loving and Giving Supplies

scissors
tape
cutting blade
Teacher Pack
"The Giving Widow"
and "The Giving Box"
teaching pictures

Loving and Giving Easy Prep

Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on "The Giving Widow" picture. Then cut out the box from "The Giving Box" picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to "The Giving Widow" picture.





Give and Take Supplies

3 or more small toys
2 containers

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1
copy per child of the
“Growing With Jesus”
page (at the end of the
lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4
pages from each My
Bible Snuggles student
book.

Say: **Look. See the woman? Touch the woman. She loves God, and she’s giving everything she has to him. Our Bible tells us to ► GIVE TO GOD. The children are learning how to give. They look happy.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

I Give You My Hands

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Give me your hands! Oooh! Those are wonderful hands. Give me your elbows. Oh, what wonderful elbows!** Continue to name and touch the baby’s body parts in a similar manner. **God gives us everything from our heads to our toes. ► GIVE TO GOD.**

Give and Take

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Place an older baby, sitting up, either on the floor or in a highchair. Set a container of small toys between you and the baby. Have another empty container nearby. Wait for the baby to select a toy to play with. Name the toy, and ask the baby to give the toy to you. Praise the baby when this happens.

Say: **You gave the toy to me. Good for you! God wants us to give to him and share with others. We ► GIVE TO GOD.** Place the toy in the empty container, and repeat the interaction with the next toy the baby selects.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.



TODDLER

1 GETTING
STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Giving, Giving" (track 6 on the CD) to the tune of "Alouette" anytime during the lesson. When you sing, have toddlers march or move until you say "stop!" Then have them freeze in place, and encourage them not to move at all.

🎵 **Giving, giving, giving, giving, giving.**
Giving, giving, giving, giving, stop! (*gently emphasize the word stop*)

Say: **No, giving is much more fun!** Then have them all start moving as you sing the song again—the song plays three times on the CD.

Afterward, say: ▶ **GIVE TO GOD.**

Sing "Jesus Is the King" (not on the CD) to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It" with your toddlers. Encourage them to do the motions with the song as you sing.

🎵 **Jesus is the king, clap your hands.** (*clap, clap*)
Jesus is the king, clap your hands. (*clap, clap*)
Jesus is the king. Yes! Jesus is the king.
Jesus is the king, clap your hands. (*clap, clap*)

Add variations to the actions such as tap your feet, slap your knees, nod your head, or give a smile.

Afterward, say: ▶ **GIVE TO GOD.**

2 BIBLE
EXPLORATION

Cheerful Charity

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gain the interest of several toddlers by using the prepared teaching picture like a puppet. You might have the widow jump for joy or make her laugh and "tickle" the



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

- CD player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "Giving, Giving" (track 6)

Cheerful Charity Supplies

- Bible
- scissors
- tape
- cutting blade
- Teacher Pack**
- "The Giving Widow" and "The Giving Box" teaching pictures
- multipurpose disks

Cheerful Charity Easy Prep

Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on "The Giving Widow" picture. Then cut out the box from "The Giving Box" picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to "The Giving Widow" picture.





children. Open your Bible to Mark 12:41-44. Show children the words and tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **The Bible tells us Jesus knew a woman who was very poor. She loved God so much that she gave him everything she had. Jesus told others that she gave her best to God. Let's look at our picture. The box is for special gifts for God. The woman has only two coins to put in the box. Would you like to put a coin in the box?** Give each toddler a multipurpose disk, and show him or her how to insert it through the slot. **What a great job you did! We ► GIVE TO GOD.** Let the toddlers repeat the action if they want to.

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Rollies

Rollies Supplies

soft ball

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Seat a toddler on the floor with legs spread out wide. Show him or her how to roll a soft ball back and forth between you. Remind children that God wants us to share with him and with others. Praise children when they share the ball. When you're certain several toddlers have the idea, try to get two willing toddlers to sit with their legs apart and feet against each other's. With your verbal encouragement, some of them may be able to begin to play Rollies with each other.

Say: **Good job sharing with each other! God wants us to give our best to him, and God wants us to share with each other. We ► GIVE TO GOD.**

Ten Giving Fingers

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Teach this finger play to your toddlers. Repeat it many times with them.

Ten little fingers we use every day, (*wiggle fingers*)

To eat, (*pretend to eat*) **to clap,** (*clap hands*) **and to play.** (*wave hands*)

Ten little fingers, God has blessed (*hold hands up to God*)

So we can use them to give him our best. (*hold hands out in front, palms up*)

Say: **God loves us, and God wants us to give our best. We ► GIVE TO GOD.**



Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.


2-YEAR-OLD

1 GETTING STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You’ll Do


Sing “Giving, Giving” (track 6 on the CD) to the tune of “Alouette” anytime during the lesson. Have the 2-year-olds sit in a circle and pass the sheet of stickers to one another as they sing. When you say the word *stop*, give a sticker to the child who is holding them at the time. Continue passing until each child has a sticker.

 **Giving, giving, giving, giving, giving.**
Giving, giving, giving, giving, stop! (*Gently emphasize the word stop.*)

Say: **Giving is much more fun!** Then play again—the song plays three times on the CD.

Afterward, say: ► **GIVE TO GOD.**

Sing “Jesus Is the King” (not on the CD) to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It” anytime during the lesson. Lead children in doing the motions.

 **Jesus is the king, clap your hands.** (*clap, clap*)
Jesus is the king, clap your hands. (*clap, clap*)
Jesus is the king. Yes! Jesus is the king.
Jesus is the king, clap your hands. (*clap, clap*)

Add variations to the actions such as tap your feet, slap your knees, nod your head, or give a smile.

Afterward, say: ► **GIVE TO GOD.**



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: “Giving, Giving” (track 6)
“Smiley Face” stickers





The Gift of Laughter Supplies

Bible

scissors

tape

cutting blade

Teacher Pack

“The Giving Widow”

and “The Giving Box”

teaching pictures

multipurpose disks

The Gift of Laughter Easy Prep

Cut slits on the three black lines around the giving box on “The Giving Widow” picture. Then cut out the box from “The Giving Box” picture, and assemble it. Attach the box to “The Giving Widow” picture.

Treasure Treats Supplies

snack-foods such as fruit-flavored cereal, pretzel twists, fish-shaped crackers, and M&M’s candies
small measuring cup
1 small resealable bag per child

! ALLERGY ALERT

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

The Gift of Laughter


What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Gather a small group of children together. Open your Bible to Mark 12:41-44. Show children the words and tell them the Bible is God’s special book.

Say: **The Bible tells us Jesus knew a woman who was very poor. She loved God so much that she gave him everything she had.** Hold up the prepared teaching picture so that children can see the woman as you talk. **Jesus told others that she gave her best to God. Our picture shows us the woman. We can see she feels happy. The children in the picture are excited and want to give, too. The children are waiting to put a special gift for God into the box. Would you like to put something in the box, too?** Give each child a multipurpose disk to drop into the box.

Say: **We can give God money, and we can give God other things, like helping other people. God wants us to give our best, as the woman did. ► GIVE TO GOD.**

Sing “God Loves a Cheerful Giver” to the tune of “Pop! Goes the Weasel.” Encourage the children to laugh heartily as they sing.

 **Giving, giving, ha-ha-ha-ha!**
God loves a happy giver.
I reach out and put in my coin,
Ha! Happy giver!

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Treasure Treats

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the treats. Help children clean their hands, and then direct them to use the measuring cup to scoop each ingredient into a sandwich bag. As you’re doing this, remind children of the widow who shared her small offering with others. When 2-year-olds have finished filling their bags, have each child give his or her bag to another. Make sure every child has a bag. Remind children that we ► **GIVE TO GOD.**



Giving Hands

What You'll Do

Set out the “Ten Giving Fingers” pages, paper, finger paints, and paint smocks, such as old shirts. Work with one child at a time. Help each child make a handprint on the bottom half of the handout. Remind children that they can give by using their hands to do things for others. Clean children’s hands with wet wipes.

Say: **We can use our hands to give to others. God wants us to give our best.**

▶ **GIVE TO GOD.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.



Giving Hands Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Ten Giving Fingers” page (at the end of the lesson)
finger paints
paper
paint smocks
wet wipes

Giving Hands Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)



HOME
CONNECT®

Growing With Jesus



Giving Hearts

If you consider how difficult it is for children to share, you can imagine how hard it is for them to give something away! Yet the early years are when we can lay foundations to help children acquire giving hearts and learn about cheerful giving. Let your child see you giving, and when you give a gift, say, "Let's give a special gift to our friend" or "We're giving to God, so let's give our best." Provide opportunities to give small gifts such as a flower, a cookie, or even a penny. When the gift is given cheerfully, the size never matters.

OK
TO COPY

Your child learned that we give to God (from Mark 12:41-44). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

INFANT

I Give You My Hands

Say: **Give me your hands! Oooh! Those are wonderful hands. Give me your elbows. Oh, what wonderful elbows!** Continue to name and touch your baby's body parts in a similar manner. **God wants us to give from our heads to our toes!**

TODDLER

Ten Giving Fingers

Teach this finger play to your toddler. Repeat it many times.

Ten little fingers we use every day (*wiggle fingers*)

To eat, (pretend to eat) to clap, (clap hands) and to play. (*wave hands*)

Ten little fingers, God has blessed (*hold hands up to God*)

So we can use them to give him our best. (*hold hands out in front, palms up*)

God loves us and God wants us to give our best. We give to God.

2-YEAR-OLD

Treasure Treats

Set out several bowls of your child's favorite snacks. Help your child put a spoonful of each snack into a sandwich bag. Fill your own bag as well. As you're doing this, remind your child of the widow who shared her small offering with others. When you have finished filling your bags, give your bags to each other. Remind your child that we give to God.

Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Set up a bank for giving. As your child is given or finds money, encourage him or her to put some in the bank to give away.
- Play a game after mealtime. Pass a toy between family members as you say, "God loves a happy giver. Here, I give you this toy!"
- Give each of your family members the gift of time this week. Plan together how you will give time to each other.



Ten Giving Fingers



Ten little fingers we use every day (*wiggle fingers*)

To eat, (*pretend to eat*) **to clap,** (*clap hands*) **and to play.** (*wave hands*)

Ten little fingers, God has blessed (*hold hands up to God*)

So we can use them to give him our best. (*hold hands out in front, palms up*)

**OK
TO COPY**



