



TRAINING CAMP

PLAN. PRACTICE. GROW.



WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2024

SMALL GROUP
K-1

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Have to Give
The Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value.
But being godly has value in every
way. It promises help for the life
you are now living and the
life to come."
1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan
and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare. Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> or a visual on some of the activities.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: One Story/Three Ways
Application Activity: Be an A-MAZE-ing Giver
Memory Verse Activity: Stacking Pennies
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Reflect on the ways Jesus showed us how to live for God through loving others. Ask God to help show each kid ways they can give of their time, money, abilities, and attitude to live for God.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Have to Give
The Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, pennies, and bouncy balls

WHAT YOU DO:

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Demonstrate how to play a version of an old game, Jacks, a few times.
 - Scatter the pennies in the middle of the group.
 - Gently toss a ball up, pick up one penny, then catch the ball with the same hand.
- Direct kids to get into groups of two to three kids.
- Give each group ten pennies and a bouncy ball.
- Instruct one kid from each group toss the ball up, grab one penny successfully, and then give the ball to another kid in the group.
- Direct the kids to take turns playing "Jacks" until they've collected all ten pennies.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Pennies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to stand.
- Instruct the kids to bend their right arm (or their left arm if they're left-handed) so that their elbow is at about eye level

and their hand is turned upward at their ear.

- Give each kid a penny in their other hand.
- Instruct the kids to put the penny on their raised elbow.
- Direct the kids to quickly swing their hand forward so the penny drops, trying to catch it with the same hand.
- Allow kids to attempt this several times.
- If anyone is able to master that, see if they can add a penny to make a stack to catch two pennies at one time, and so on.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Have to Give

The Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Some of us caught on to this fun trick quickly, and others had to practice a lot to catch even one coin! **[Transition]** Today we'll hear about someone who practiced living in a way that seemed simple to others but meant so much to Jesus!"

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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SMALL GROUP
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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



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Mark 12:41-44

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1. ONE STORY/THREE WAYS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the main points of today's story.
 - Jesus was at the temple where people were giving their offering. Some rich people gave a lot of money and wanted everyone else to see their extravagant gifts of money so they could show off. They weren't the ones who caught Jesus' eye though! A widow, who gave two small coins, which wasn't worth much, was the one Jesus pointed out because she gave more out of the little that she did have.
- Divide your group into three groups.
- Instruct each group to work together to act out the story from a different point of view.
 - Assign one group to act out the story from the widow's point of view.
 - Assign another group to act out the story from the point of view of the rich people.
 - Assign another group to act out the story from Jesus' point of view.
- Give each group about 5 minutes to plan what they're going to do and say.
- Tell the groups that they will be performing their roles for each other.
- Help each group come up with some words and actions to act out their perspective of the story.
- Offer the following insights to each group to help them understand what each character may have been feeling:
 - Widow: While we don't know for sure if she was smiling, we can assume she was happy to give her offering to God because she was willing to give so much of her own money to God.
 - Rich people: They may have thought they were more important because they could give more. They might have been proud of themselves for the large amounts of money they could give.
 - Jesus: When He saw what the rich people were giving, He did not feel joy, but sadness, because it's very likely that they were giving their money to show off. When Jesus saw the widow's gift, He was pleased because He knew she was showing her love for God by giving everything she had.
- Bring the groups back together.
- Invite each group to take turns showing the others their reenactment.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"It's interesting when you look at a story from different perspectives! Jesus showed us how we can **practice living for God**. But what about the others in the story? Did the rich people want to show their love for God with their money? (*Invite responses.*) No! How about the widow? (*Invite responses.*) Yes! She gave so much of what mattered to her because she loved God so much. Jesus showed us that it's not the size of the gift that matters to God. It's our heart behind the gift that God values.



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GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(1. ONE STORY/THREE WAYS, CONTINUED)

[Make It Personal] (Share a time when it was difficult but you gave [money, time, or something special] to honor God and love others.)



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



* 2. A-MAZE-ING GIVER!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "A-MAZE-ing Giver!" Activity Page, "A-MAZE-ing Giver! Answer Key" Activity Page, and pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a pencil and an "A-MAZE-ing Giver!" Activity Page.
- Instruct the kids to find the picture of the widow on the "A-MAZE-ing Giver!" Activity Page.
- Direct the kids to try to find their way from the widow to the offering box in the middle.
- As kids find their way, say: "The best way to take the widow through the maze wasn't through ALL of the coins, but through the two coins that were hers."
- Invite the kids to write their names on the line on the "A-MAZE-ing Giver!" Activity Page. (Help as needed.)
- Instruct the kids to try to find their way through the maze from their name to the offering box in the middle.
 - Refer to the "A-MAZE-ing Giver! Answer Key" Activity Page if they get stuck."
 - Say: "You might have noticed that the best way for you to get through the maze was also to go through only two coins."
- Ask: "What are some ways you can give to God?"
 - To get their thinking started:
 - Help kids think of places they can give to God: at home, school, or anywhere.
 - Say: "Giving to God is not just about giving money. It could be giving to help others, or a good attitude to cheer others up."

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Have to Give

The Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"We don't have to have a lot to give a lot. The way Jesus celebrated the widow's two coins shows us that the greatest things we can give don't have to be big and shiny. They don't even have to be money, or toys, or something we can hold.

"They can be things we're committed to practicing. If we're great at a sport, we can give our game to God and whether we win or lose, be cheerful and thankful. If we're great at singing, we use our voice to sing songs that worship God! If we're great at making people laugh or smile, we can use our gift to encourage people who are sad or lonely. When we help people see God at work all around them, it's one of the ways we can **practice living for God!**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



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3. STACKING PENNIES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Verse Card" Activity Page, and pennies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into four smaller groups.
- Read the verse from the "Verse Card" Activity Page.
- Invite the kids to repeat the Memory Verse after you.
- Give each group about 30 pennies.
- As you recite the Memory Verse, instruct the kids to take turns stacking pennies—one penny for each word you say.
- Continue repeating the verse.
 - Build interest by pausing between words for different lengths of time.
- Continue until you've read the entire verse and each group has stacked up the corresponding pennies.
- Give each group a card from the "Verse Card" Activity Page.
- Instruct the groups to unstack their pennies.
- Invite any kids who want to read the verse to lead the group in penny stacking again.
- Provide assistance if needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Learning God's Word is an important way to **practice living for God**. Giving—whether it's money, food, toys, time, or sharing God's Word with others—is a very important way we can show others how we love God. These are just a few ways we can **practice living for God!**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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BASIC TRUTH

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4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared envelopes, blank paper, pennies, markers or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid an envelope with the prayer written on the front and a blank piece of paper.
- Set out the markers or crayons.
- Invite the kids to draw pictures on the blank paper of things they would like to ask God to help them be more giving with.
 - If needed, prompt them with ideas of things to draw, like: their favorite toys that they could share more, a clock to help them remember to share their time by helping someone, a picture of them cleaning up after dinner, donate some of their old clothes, money, etc.
- After a few minutes of drawing, read the outside of the envelope.
- Encourage the kids to repeat after you: "God, help me live for You by being more giving and loving towards others."
- Instruct the kids to tuck their drawings in the envelope.
- Give each kid two pennies.
- Instruct them to tuck the two pennies in the envelope along with their drawing to remind them of the widow's gift—it was small, but mighty!
- Help kids seal the envelope.
- Encourage the kids to put their envelope somewhere that they see often during the week. Whenever they see it, they can feel for the coins and ask God to help them be more giving throughout the week.
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God has blessed us all with some special things! Jesus showed us how to live for God by loving others. The coins the widow had meant a lot to her, but she gave them to God when she put them in the offering box because God meant a lot to her too. Jesus showed us how we can **practice living for God** through what we give.

"God, thank You for the true story of the widow's offering. Help us have hearts like hers and think of ways we can show our love for You with everything we have. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show someone they know their envelope and ask them how they could **practice living for God!**



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

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

- Offering container
- Pennies, 10 for every 2 to 3 kids
- Bouncy balls, one for every 2 to 3 kids

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pennies, at least 10 for each kid

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #2.

1. ONE STORY/THREE WAYS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

* 2. A-MAZE-ING GIVER!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "A-MAZE-ing Giver!" Activity Page on paper, one for each kid
- Print "A-MAZE-ing Giver! Answer Key" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- Pencils, one for each kid

3. STACKING PENNIES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Verse Card" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, four cards for each Small Group
- Pennies, about 120 for each Small Group

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Blank envelopes, one for each kid
- Blank paper, one for each kid
- Pennies, two for each kid
- Markers or crayons, enough for a Small Group to share
- Before group time:
 - Write the following on the front of each envelope: "God, help me live for You by being more giving and loving towards others."

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**