



THE THEME

Joy of Generosity

MEMORY VERSE

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- Matthew 6:21

CHALLENGE VERSE

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

- 2 Corinthians 5:10

SEPTEMBER 17 - LIFE APPLICATION

Give sacrificially and believe God will provide.

Note to Parents

This month, we are learning about **“Joy in Generosity,”** and the life application this week is *“Give Sacrificially and Believe God Will Provide.”* Before talking with your kids, read **Luke 21:1-4**. Be prepared to discuss giving sacrificially and trusting God to provide for our needs.

Review

Last week, in **Luke 12**, we learned about the man who had so much that he had to build bigger barns to hold it all! **Why did Jesus teach this parable, and what is wrong with wanting more and more?** (*Jesus was teaching that, instead of wanting more and hoarding what we have, we should share with others.*)

THIS WEEK: DISCUSS

1. Together, read **Luke 21:1-2**.

Ask: “What did Jesus see that caused him to comment?” (*He saw rich people putting many gifts into the offering box at the temple, and a poor widow putting in two small copper coins.*)

2. Now read **verses 3 and 4**.

What did Jesus say about the poor widow’s gift? (*It was worth more than all the rich people had given, because it was all she had.*)

3. In those times, the rich people made a really big deal about giving their gifts, some even hiring trumpeters to play so that everyone would see what they had given! But the poor woman gave all she had, not even knowing where her next meal would come from. She trusted God to give her what she needed for each day. **Whose sacrifice did Jesus love more - the rich person’s, or the poor woman’s? Why?**
4. God sees all of our gifts and He knows if our gifts come from our hearts or to impress other people. Jesus doesn’t look at how much we give, but at how much we have left after we give! **What do you think “sacrificial giving” means?** (*Sacrificial giving means we give up something we want or need so that someone else can have what they need or so that God’s church can do work in His kingdom.*)

5. When we give sacrificially, we are trusting God to provide for us - for all that we really need, but not necessarily for all the things we want.

Let's think of some examples of things we need. (*On a piece of paper, draw a line down the middle and write "Needs" on one side and "Wants" on the other. Write down the things they think we need.*)

Now let's think of things we want but don't need. (*Help them with this- you may list some of your own wants or desires.*)

PRAYER

"Dear Jesus, Thank You for teaching us that you want us to give to the church and to others even if it means not having everything we want. Help us to give generously and with joy! In Your Name we pray, Amen."

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Say: "Last week, we learned that we are obedient when we give 1/10 of our money to the church, which is called the 'tithe,' but that is just the beginning point of generosity! **After we give to the church, how can we live a life of generosity by giving to others?** Let's think of some ways we can give joyfully!"

Together, talk about **3 things that you can do as a family.**

Examples:

Make cookies or a meal to give to a neighbor who is a shut-in or someone going through a hard time. If you have a garden, include flowers!

Offer to help mow a neighbor's yard or work in their garden if they are not able.

Make bags to give to people in need with things that would be helpful (Toothbrush and toothpaste, a bottle of water, socks, a small gift card for food, etc.)

Gather up toys or books to give away.

After making your list, pick one thing to do this week! And, challenge your kids to “think big” about ways they can make a difference.

- **Share with us on the MOHC - Hope Families Face Book page!**
www.facebook.com/groups/MOHCHopeFamilies

Here are some charities you may want to work with or donate to as a family.

- **Water Mission** (Help provide clean water & also the living water of Jesus)
watermission.org/join-us
- **Compassion International (Sponsor a child)**
compassion.com/sponsor_a_child
- **Samaritan’s Purse (Disaster Relief)**
samaritanspurse.org/our-ministry/disaster-relief-landing-page
- **Operation Christmas Child**
samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child