

Jesus Notices a Widow's Giving

June 21st, 2020

Read Mark 12:41-42

Ask your children who the two givers are in this story. Who gave more? Who gave less? Do you think Jesus is more impressed with the rich people who gave lots of money or the widow who only put in two small coins?

Read Mark 12:43-44

Explain to your children that God wants us to be cheerful givers. He doesn't need our money, but He does want for us to trust Him with all that we have. Everything that we have has been given to us from God - everything all the way down to each breath we take.

Ask your children to list some things that they can give to God (like material things), but also try to get them to think outside the box (time, words, homework, friendships, chores, sports, cooking, etc.).

Ask your children what their favorite things to do are, then challenge them to think of ways they can offer up those things to God. Basically, how would Jesus behave if He were to do that activity? If Jesus played sports, would He be disrespectful to his teammates or opponents, or would He encourage others around Him?

Activity: My Own Offering Box

Materials Needed: a shoebox, pringle can, or any other item that a slot could be cut out of

Optional: stickers or markers to decorate the item

SUNDAY STUDIES
for Kids

Consider writing **2 Corinthians 9:7** on the item, as a friendly reminder each time you put something in:

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Cut a slot out of the top of the item, big enough to put coins or dollars into.

Explain that this is their God box. They will put all the things they're giving to God in this box. That could mean spare change they have, a portion of their allowance, or anything along those lines.

Another thing they could put in the box is non-monetary offerings. For example, if they are loving to their brother and do it while remembering God, they could write it down or draw a picture of it and place it into the box. This is a great way to plant into their minds that we aren't to just give some parts of our lives (money, Sundays/Wednesdays, etc.) to God - He wants all of us. We are to give all that we have to Him, because none of it is our own.

At the end of the week or month (your decision), have your children collect the money out of the box and take it to church on Sunday morning to put in the offering plate.

Be creative and have fun! The point of this project is to instill a sense of excitement when giving.