



WEEK
THREE
NOVEMBER 2024

LARGE
GROUP
K-5

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Willingly
God Loves a Cheerful Giver
2 Corinthians 9:7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Give with a good attitude.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Every good and perfect
gift is from God.
James 1:17a, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Generosity—Making someone's day
by giving something away

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

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
Opener
Worship (*Alive from Hillsong Y&F* and *At the Top of My Lungs from Orange Music*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect Bible
Story Review:
Application Activity:
Hidden Gifts
Memory Verse Activity:
Memory Verse Motions
Prayer Activity:



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME LOOP

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN (10 Seconds)

Host enters.

OPENER

HOST: "Hi, friends! How's everybody feeling today? If you're feeling good, give me a thumbs-up. Now give a friend a high five. *(Pause for response.)* All right, awesome!"

"Well, I'm so excited to be here with you at [name of your environment]. We've got another fun 'special delivery' game to play. For this one, I'll need a few Small Group Leaders to come up and help me out.

Choose four leaders—two from each side of the room—to make two teams.

Have each team stand behind a table with the supplies for the game.

"Each of these teams will work together to ship a package. *(To the leaders)* Contestants, you will do the following:

- pick up your item
- put it in the box
- tape it shut
- put a label on it and write [tech volunteer]'s name on it
- draw a smiley face somewhere on the box
- put a stamp on it
- hand-deliver it to our friend [tech volunteer's name] in the back of the room.

Reference the tech team volunteer in the back of the room.

"While you make your way over to [tech volunteer's name], you'll say 'ZOOOOOOOMMMMMM' as loudly as you can.

"Did you get all that? Pick up your item, put it in the box, tape it shut, put a label on it, draw a smiley face, weigh it, and deliver it with a 'ZOOM.' The first team to successfully complete all those steps will win!

"But, wait! I forgot to mention that each of you will only be able to use one arm. Your other arm must stay behind your back at all times!



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“Your team out here will be cheering for you—(to audience) right, everyone? First, let’s hear this side cheer for [leaders’ names]. (Pause for response.) Now this side, let’s hear you cheer for [leaders’ names]. Amazing! Let’s get packing. Ready, set, go!

AUDIO: FUN, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Provide funny commentary as teams compete. Narrate what the contestants are doing so the kids can follow along. Announce the next steps of the game if the contestants seem unsure of what to do. Encourage the crowd to cheer for their leaders!

“Wow! That was incredible! Did you know delivering a package could be so exciting? Let’s give our teams a hand as they head back to their seats. And let’s all stand up and get ready to sing and worship God together.”



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WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! Are you ready to sing? *(Pause for response.)* Are you ready to move? *(Pause for response.)* I never feel more ALIVE than when I get to worship with all of you. It's time for us to sing, clap, dance, and have fun celebrating Jesus. How about you guys? Do you feel ALIVE? I said, do you feel ALIVE? Okay, then sing this with me!

VIDEO: "ALIVE" LIVE LYRICS

That's amazing! You guys are doing so good with these new songs. I love this verse from Romans. It says,

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's".

I don't know about you, but I'm ALLIVE and I'm going to LIVE for the Lord! Amen?

If you're going to live your life for the Lord, then let's not keep this to ourself. Let's SING it, Let's SHOUT It! At the Top of our lungs, let's lift our voices to the Lord!

VIDEO: "AT THE TOP OF MY LUNGS" LIVE LYRICS VIDEO

So good! It feels good to praise the Lord, doesn't It?

If you would, let's bow our heads and pray. *(pray In your own words to close out our time of worship)*



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everyone! It's great to be here with you as we talk about what it means to give generously. (*Hold up Bible.*) "The book of 2 Corinthians in the Bible is one of 21 letters in the New Testament. The leaders of the early church wanted to teach Jesus-followers what was true, and what it meant to follow Jesus. And since they couldn't pick up the phone and call or send an email, they communicated in one of the only ways they could. They wrote letters.

"The apostle Paul sent several of these letters to the Jesus-followers in the church at Corinth. Paul had visited Corinth to teach people about Jesus, and there had been some problems as the people there learned and grew. A lot of the people had turned from their not-so-good ways and were following Jesus. Let's look at one of the letters Paul wrote to the Jesus-followers in Corinth. We call this letter 2 Corinthians.

BE READY TO GIVE

STORYTELLER: "In the part of 2 Corinthians we are going to focus on today, Paul had a LOT to say about giving.

Walk into the audience toward a Small Group Leader.

(To the leader) "[Leader's name], could you read this part for us? *(To audience)* Remember, this was Paul writing to the people in the church in Corinth.

Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NIRV) and hand it to the leader to read. Hold up the handheld microphone for the leader so everyone can hear.

LEADER: *You do well in everything else. You do well in faith and in speaking. You do well in knowledge and in complete commitment. And you do well in the love we have helped to start in you. So make sure that you also do well in the grace of giving to others. (NIRV)*

STORYTELLER: "Okay. So Paul was writing this part of his letter to the Corinthians who were doing a great job of following Jesus. But there was one more way that he wanted them to do well. What was it that he wanted them to make sure to do? *(Pause for response.)*

Right. Give to others. "Paul explained that his friend Titus, who very likely brought this letter we call 2 Corinthians, was coming to Corinth. And while Titus was there, he was going to collect an offering of money to help some believers in the city of Jerusalem who were going through really hard times. Paul wanted the people in the church at Corinth who were following Jesus well to be ready to give . . . so that they could help the people in Jerusalem. Giving to others was one more way they could show that they were following Jesus well.

Walk toward a different Small Group Leader.

(To the leader) "[Leader's name], could you read this part of Paul's letter for us?"



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Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NirV) and hand it to the leader to read. Hold up the handheld microphone for the leader.

LEADER: *Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give. You shouldn't give if you don't want to. You shouldn't give because you are forced to. God loves a cheerful giver. (NirV)*

Return to the stage, with the Bible, and stand behind the table with the prop box.

CHEERFUL GIVING

STORYTELLER: "Thanks, [leader's name] (*To audience*) That's pretty interesting! You probably know how it feels when you WANT to give something to someone—like maybe a birthday gift . . .

Hold up the wrapped gift.

" . . . or a picture that you've drawn for someone . . .

Hold up the pre-drawn picture.

" . . . or maybe a warm winter coat that your family donated to help someone who needs it.

Hold up the coat.

"You can't wait to give those kinds of gifts because you know the person will really appreciate them. You know that it'll brighten their day or provide what they need. That kind of giving feels good, doesn't it? That's what Paul meant when he wrote, '*God loves a cheerful giver.*'

"When you give cheerfully, you're not giving because someone MADE you do it. You've made up your mind to give because you WANT to do it. And there are lots of reasons that we can give with a happy heart!

Hold up the stack of fake money and thumb through it.

"First of all, you don't need lots of money or lots of stuff to be a cheerful giver.

Set down the fake money and hold up the Bible.

"In his letter, Paul told the Corinthians about some churches in a place called Macedonia. Paul said that the people in Macedonia had suffered a lot. They were going through a hard time. But still, they chose to give generously . . . even though they didn't have much themselves.

Hold up the wallet and pull out the single dollar bill.

"Second . . . you can be a cheerful giver because you can trust that God can use your gift in a BIG way. "As Paul told the Corinthians:

Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 9:10 (NirV) and read.



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[God] will increase the results of your good works. (NirV)

SEEING GOD AT WORK

STORYTELLER: “And there’s something else that happens when you give with a good attitude. Others can see God at work! God is the ultimate Giver, so when we share what we have, we show the world what God is like. “It’s like Paul wrote to the people in Corinth:

Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 9:12-13 (NirV) and read.

Your gifts meet the needs of the Lord’s people. And that’s not all. Your gifts also cause many people to thank God. You have shown yourselves to be worthy by what you have given. So other people will praise God because you obey him. That proves that you really believe the good news about Christ. They will also praise God because you share freely with them and with everyone else. (NirV)

“Once you’ve made up your mind to give your time or your stuff, don’t focus on what you’re giving up. Instead, focus on what you’re doing for the other person and how it will make them feel.

“I’d love to show you what this looks like in our world today—right here at the Ridge. I’ve asked a couple of people to share their stories of generosity.

Tell two stories of generosity that you know of - one of how It Impacted you and one of how It Impacted someone else.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Those were some great examples of giving! It’s important to be generous because our giving can go so much farther than we know. With God’s help, we can learn to be cheerful givers—because we WANT to, not because we HAVE to. “This is what we need to remember today:

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Give with a good attitude. Say that with me.”

STORYTELLER AND KIDS: “Give with a good attitude.”

Host enters.



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SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

HOST: "I love that—**give with a good attitude**. If we're honest, sometimes we don't feel like being generous. But God can help us to become more and more like Jesus, Who acted with generosity to everyone."

STORYTELLER: "That's right. Jesus gave us the very best example of generosity with the way He gave love to everyone He met!"

SLIDE: VIRTUE

HOST: "Remember, generosity is about making someone's day by giving something away."

SLIDE: THEME

"So when you're tempted to hold onto what you have or to complain about giving, remember that every single thing you have is already a gift from God. Everything we have—our time, our money, our stuff—it all actually belongs to God."

STORYTELLER: "When we give, God can use our gifts to do BIG things! And when we keep that in mind, we can actually get really excited about what our giving can do! I know the stories we heard today from our leaders will help me think about giving in a new way."

HOST: "So what could it look like for you to **give with a good attitude**? Maybe if you get an allowance, you could set aside some of that money so you're ready to be generous toward someone else. Maybe you could give up your time to help your brother or sister clean up their room—not because someone told you to, but because you want to! Or maybe you could ask your parent or grandparent or other adult to bake some cookies with you, just to share with someone else!"

STORYTELLER: "Mmmm. I really like that idea, [Host's name]! *(To audience)* The more you choose to give cheerfully, the more you'll find yourself making someone's day by giving something away."

HOST: "And that's great way to **[Basic Truth]** treat others the way you want to be treated. Let's pray and ask God to help us give."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER OR HOST: "Dear God, thank You for being so incredibly generous to us. Thank You for loving us and for providing what we need. Each of us in this room can think of times when someone has given generously to us—not because they had to, but because they wanted to. Please give us the right attitude so we can give cheerfully. Help us to follow Your example and to be generous with our time and our stuff so we can help the people around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME