



Generous – Lesson 2

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 9:8 “And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.”

Key Point: Everything belongs to God!

Bible Verse: Matthew 19:16–30

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.

- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

This is a story from Matthew 19:16-20 in the Bible.

When Jesus is traveling to Jerusalem, a rich young ruler comes up to him (1). The man bows down and asks, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life (2)?" Jesus asks the man, "Why ask me about what is good? There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, keep the commandments (3)." The rich young ruler says, "I've obeyed all these commandments. What else must I do (4)?"

Jesus says, "If you want to be perfect, go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven (5). Then come, follow me." The man becomes sad and walks away from Jesus (6). The man is rich and has many things he loves that he does not want to give up (7). He does not understand that Jesus is the greatest gift and that he is

generous and will give the man all that he needs and more. **Jesus tells the disciples**, “I tell you the truth, **it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven**. I’ll say it again—it **is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle** (8) than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!”

When **the disciples** hear this, they are surprised and **ask**, “Then **who in the world can be saved** (9)?” **Jesus responds**, “**Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible** (10).” Jesus was teaching his disciples and the rich young man that nothing can be more important than loving him. He is the greatest treasure. God wants us to love him more than money, toys, or anything else. When we give freely, it shows that we believe that God is generous to us and that he has given us everything we have. Jesus is so generous that he gave his life for us so we can spend forever with him. We can have eternal life with him by fully giving our lives to him, and following him no matter what the cost.

Key Point: Everything belongs to God!

Review Questions

1. **What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do to receive eternal life?** (Go and sell everything he owns, give his money to the poor, and then follow Jesus!)
2. **Why was the rich man sad?** (He didn’t want to give up everything he had.)
3. **Can we have eternal life with Jesus by following rules like the Ten Commandments or by being a “good person”?** (No, it is impossible; we all sin. But we can have eternal life by asking Jesus to forgive us and by fully giving our lives to him.)
4. **Would it be hard for you to give up your favorite toy to follow Jesus?**

5. **Do you remember there is no greater gift than Jesus and he freely gives himself to us?**

ACTIVITIES:

It’s all God’s

Supplies

- God’s or Mine worksheet (one per child)
- Things a Kid Might Have cutout (one per bin)
- Cross cutout (one per child)

Give each child a worksheet with “God’s” on one side and “Mine” on the other. Next, give each child a set of pictures of things they might have (money, toys, food) and ask them if these things are God’s or ours. All of the items will go on the “God’s” side as you point out to the children that God owns everything and gives us everything we have. Have them glue those things to the “God’s” side of the worksheet. Remind them that we may have these items in our house, but ultimately God owns them and he has been generous to give them to us.

Hand each child a cross. Explain that the cross is for each of them and can be glued on the “Mine” side of the worksheet. God is so generous and loves them each so much that he sent Jesus to give his life for them. God loves them personally and they each can have a relationship with God because of Jesus. The only thing that should be on the “Mine” side of their plate is a cross that represents Jesus. He is all we need. Jesus generously gives us all we need. Encourage them to put the worksheet somewhere in their room at home to remind them to pray. Then they can ask God to help them remember to follow him and be generous with everything he has given them.

Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn’t matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is.

Tips for 2s: Give them only one thing at a time and do the crafts step by step. Also, you may find it easier to have the helper be in charge of the glue stick. Have the helper spread glue all over the paper that needs glue and have the children focus on sticking the items on the paper.

Eye of the Needle

Supplies

- Paper towel tube (one per bin)
- Set of objects too large to go through tube (one per bin)

Have the children try putting large objects through the paper towel tube. Explain to them that it is impossible. Jesus said it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than it is for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Just like in the opening activity, if we try to hold on to things, we are not free to fully love Jesus. Jesus was asking the rich young ruler to give up his possessions and follow him. God doesn't say we have to give away everything we have in order to follow him or that we cannot have toys or food or money. But God does say we need to give our whole heart to him and make him our greatest treasure. There is no greater treasure than Jesus. Everything we have is worth giving up to follow him and to have a relationship with him. Ask the children if they were asked to give away one of their toys which one would be the hardest for them to give away.

Give and Share Action Song

(Sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

**Jesus gives me everything,
everything, everything**

**Jesus gives me everything
that I need and more**

**I will freely give and share,
give and share, give and share**

**I will freely give and share
all he gives to me.**