

# Cheer Factor

**Bible:** Cheer Factor (God loves a cheerful giver) • *2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

**Bottom Line:** Use your money wisely.

**Memory Verse:** "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

**Life App:** Stewardship—taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)**

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Poor, Poor Kitty**

- No supplies needed

**10:15**

### **Early Arriver**

- An offering container

## **Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)**

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

## **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (9:40, 10:55, 12:10)**

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Race to the Faces**

- "Happy and Sad Faces" Activity Pages; 1 set for each small group

**10:15**

### **Open Hands**

- White paper; 1 sheet for each kid
- Crayons in any color with the outer paper removed
- Coins; (1-2 for each kid)

## **Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)**

- No supplies needed

## **Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)**

# Cheer Factor

**Bible:** Cheer Factor (God loves a cheerful giver) • 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

**Bottom Line:** Use your money wisely.

**Memory Verse:** "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

**Life App:** Stewardship—taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

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

*Before kids arrive, pray that today's content would change how they view money and how they interact with it. Pray not only for generosity of spirit, but also for the power of a changed perspective in kids' lives. Ask God to help kids put what they're learning into action by focusing on becoming cheerful, openhanded givers.*

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Poor, Poor Kitty**

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

- Have kids sit on the floor in a circle.
- Choose one child to be the kitty.
  - The "kitty" crawls up to another child and meows.
  - That child has to pet the kitty on the head and say, "Poor, poor kitty," without laughing or smiling.
  - If he laughs or smiles, he becomes the kitty.
  - Each kitty has three meows to get someone to laugh.
- Vary by having kids be different animals of their choosing.

#### **What You Say:**

"It's fun to hear everyone laughing. In our game, it was hard to NOT smile, wasn't it? **[Transition]** In our lesson today we'll learn about something God wants us to do with a smile on our face. Let's go to Large Group and find out."

**10:15**

### **Early Arriver Idea**

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

**What You Need:** Offering container

**What You Do:**

- Collect kids' offerings as they arrive.
- Invite the kids to do some fun faces in response to the following scenarios:
  - Show me the look you'd have on your face if you just found out that you were given a lot of money—like a MILLION dollars.
  - Show me the look you'd have if you found out that you had to give all the money away.
  - Tell me whom you'd give the money to.
  - Would it be hard to give the money away? Why or why not?

What's something you would like to buy for someone else if you had a lot of money?

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

# Cheer Factor

**Bible:** Cheer Factor (God loves a cheerful giver) • *2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

**Bottom Line:** Use your money wisely.

**Memory Verse:** “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.” *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

**Life App:** Stewardship—taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)**

### GETTING READY

#### 1. Opener/Closer

**What You Need:**

- Host
- Stack of play money

#### 2. Bible Truth

**What You Need:**

- Historyteller
- 252 Story

#### 3. Worship

**What You Need:**

- Power Praise Team

*Music and Sound Effects (SFX):*

- “This Love”
- “This Little Light”
- “Glory to God Forever”

# Cheer Factor

**Bible:** Cheer Factor (God loves a cheerful giver) • 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

**Bottom Line:** Use your money wisely.

**Memory Verse:** “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.” *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

**Life App:** Stewardship—taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)**

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

**SFX:** *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

*Host welcomes kids as they enter.*

**HOST:** “Hey, hey, hey! Welcome, welcome, everyone! It’s me, your friend, [Host’s name], with you, and I am so glad you guys are here today in the Treehouse! If you’re glad you’re here, give me a good fist pump and say, ‘It’s so clear (*fist pump*) I’m GLAD to be here.’ Ready?”

**HOST and KIDS:** “It’s so clear (*fist pump*) I’m GLAD to be here.”

**HOST:** “That’s awesome! Are you all ready for some fun today? Yes! Me too! Of course, we always have fun in [your environment’s name]. And let’s start the fun and kick off our time together by singing praises to our amazing God. Please welcome the Pooooowerrrr Praise Team!”

*Power Praise team enters as Host joins the audience.*

### **Worship**

**SFX:** *“This Love”*

**SFX:** *“This Little Light”*

**SFX:** *“Glory to God Forever”*

*Power Praise team exits as Host retakes the stage.*

**HOST:** “Thanks Power Praise!”

“Okay, today we are talking about a big word. It’s kind of a long word to say.

**CG:** *Stewardship Slide*

On three, shout it out. One, two, three. *Stewardship!*”

**HOST and KIDS:** “Stewardship is taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.”

**HOST:** “One more time!”

**HOST and KIDS:** “Stewardship is taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God.”

**HOST:** “That’s right! The time we have, the stuff we own—it all belongs to God! He gives us these things so we can use them to love Him and to love others. Today we’re going to talk about something else that belongs to God.

**SFX:** *Cha-ching!*

“Any guesses what that might be? *(Pause for response.)*”

**SFX:** *Cha-ching!*

Let’s find out. Please welcome [Historyteller’s Name] to the stage.

*Historyteller enters as Host exits.*

### **SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH**

**HISTORYTELLER:** “Hello, hello! How is everyone doing today? Give me a thumbs-up if you’re having a great time! Today we’re talking about the earth, our time, and our stuff, and who it all belongs to. Who does all of that belong to? *(Pause for response.)* God! That’s right. Everything belongs to God.

“Does ‘everything’ mean your family? *(Hold hand to ear.)* Yes! Does ‘everything’ mean your favorite toy? *(Hold hand to ear.)* Yes! Does ‘everything’ mean your time? *(Hold hand to ear.)* Yes! ‘Everything’ means everything. Everything belongs to God. He allows us to use His stuff. And how we choose to use it is called stewardship.

“We’ve seen how the people who wrote the Bible talked a ton about how God wants us to take care of what we have. And today is no different. We have a GREAT couple of verses to check out today. So let’s dig into God’s Word. Sound good? Great! Watch this.”

**CG:** *252 Story*

### **WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH**

“Let’s take a look at our Bottom Line for today.

**CG:** *Bottom Line Slide*

**[Bottom Line]** “Use your money wisely. Say it with me.”

**KIDS and HISTORYTELLER:** **[Bottom Line]** “Use your money wisely.”

**HISTORYTELLER:** “One more time! How should we use our money?”

**KIDS and HISTORYTELLER:** *[Bottom Line]* “Use your money wisely.”

**HISTORYTELLER:** “You’ve got it! How about we pray and ask God to help us use our money wisely?”

**Pray**

**HISTORYTELLER:** “God, thank You so much for everything You allow us to use. We know it all belongs to You. Help us to give, save, and spend—not because we have to but because we want to honor You with the money You allow us to have. Help us to be cheerful givers, because that’s what You love. We love You. We pray this in Jesus’ name, amen!”

“If you have an offering today, you can bring that on up to put into the offering bucket.”

*Host enters as Historyteller exits. Host grabs a stack of play money.*

**Closer**

**HOST:** “You know, money CAN be a good thing. But money can also make people act really crazy. It can cause fights between friends and family members. It can turn people into greedy people who don’t care about anything else. If you’re not careful with it, money can lead to all kinds of problems. That’s why it’s important to take care of the money God has given you—to use it wisely.

“One way to do that is to remember that everything—including your money—belongs to God. If you can do that, it can change the way you spend your money, the way you save it, and yes, the way you give it away.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

“The one thing to remember today is this: *[Bottom Line]* Use your money wisely.

“When you *[Bottom Line]* use your money wisely, you spend money on things that matter instead of wasting it. You save with a goal in mind. AND you give—not just because you know you’re supposed to. Instead, you give cheerfully because you are grateful to God for giving you the ability to give in the first place.

“One day this week—or even on the ride home—sit down with your mom or dad and decide what amount you could give, what amount you want to save, and what amount you want to spend with some of the money you have.

“We can all be cheerful givers when we have a plan to use our money wisely. Now let’s head to Small Group, where we’ll talk more about how we can use our money in a way that honors God. Have a great time! See you next week!”

*Dismiss children to their Small Groups.*

**CG: Small Group Slide**

**Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)****9:00 & 11:30****Race to the Faces****What You Need:** Bible, “Happy and Sad Faces” Activity Pages**What You Do:**

- Read 2 Corinthians 9:7 to your group.
- Ask kids to show you with a facial expression what someone looks like when they give cheerfully.
- Explain that someone who gives “reluctantly” or “under compulsion” is a sad, grouchy giver. They give because someone is making them do it, not because they want to.
- Ask kids to show you the face of a person who doesn’t want to give away any of their money.
- Remind kids that the Bible says, **[Bottom Line] “Use your money wisely.”** When we share our money with a happy heart, it makes God happy too.
- Play “Race to the Faces” to help your group identify wise and unwise uses of money.
  - Place the “Happy and Sad Faces” on the floor at one end of your meeting area.
  - Divide the group into two teams. Then ask each team to line up at the opposite end of the room from where you placed the “Happy and Sad Faces.”
  - Read a situation from the list below.
  - At your signal, the first person from each team will “race to the faces” and grab either the happy face or the sad face, depending on the scenario you read.
  - Tell kids to grab the happy face if the illustration you read to them was a good use of money and to pick up the sad face if the illustration was not a good way to use money.
  - Whoever is first to return to their team with the appropriate card is the winner. Ask that team to share why they think the situation you read was a wise or unwise use of money. Then return the face cards and play again.
    - Spending all of your money on candy and not sharing any of it.
    - Putting some of your money in the offering at church.
    - Buying your sister an ice cream cone because your mom said you had to.
    - Saving your money to buy gifts at Christmas.
    - Being greedy.
    - Holding your money in your hand and telling God, “Thank You.”
    - Taking your money to school and showing it off.
    - Buying a new Bible.
    - Being careful to keep your money safe so you don’t accidentally lose it.
    - Sending money to missionaries.

**What You Say:**

“If you have money, it’s important to take care of it—to **[Bottom Line] use your money wisely**. One thing to always remember is that everything, including your money, belongs to God. If you think of your money that way, you’ll spend it on things that matter. You won’t waste it. You’ll save money but you’ll also give some away to help or encourage others. And when you do, it won’t be with a sad, grumpy face. It’ll be with a smile and a ‘thank You’ to God for giving you so much that you can share it with others.”

***[Make It Personal] (What are some ways you’ve had fun giving to others? Did you surprise someone with a special gift? Did you give secretly and they never knew it was you? Share a quick story with your group!)***



**10:15****Open Hands****[Live for God | Application Activity]***Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

**What You Need:** Paper, broken crayons with paper wrappings removed, coins, cell phone camera (optional)

**What You Do:**

- Show the kids a coin. Then place it in the palm of your hand and grip it tightly.
- Give each of the kids five seconds to try and pry it from your hand.
- Repeat, but this time, place a coin in your open palm.
- Give each child a chance to come up and take a coin without any resistance on your part. (Kids can keep the coin for later.)
- Remind everyone that a cheerful giver is not greedy or stingy.
  - Instead of being unwilling to share what we have, we should open our hands and be willing to give.
  - Explain that it's okay to enjoy the things they have. But it's not okay to be stingy or unwilling to let go of your stuff to help someone else.
- Hand out a sheet of paper and a crayon to each kid and ask them to trace their left and right hands side by side onto the paper.
  - If younger kids can't trace their own hands, give help as needed and let kids trace each other's hands if possible.
- Demonstrate how to place a coin under their papers and position it in the palm area on the outline of their hand.
- Show them how to rub the side of the crayon over the coin to create a relief of the image beneath the paper.
- When finished, their drawings will look like open palms holding coins.
- Instruct kids to write their names on the back of their papers.
- If time allows, collect papers and let kids guess which hand belongs to which kid.
- *Optional: Use a cell phone to take close-up photo of each child's actual open hand holding a coin. Show everyone the pictures and see if kids can identify each other's hands.*

**What You Say:**

"Cheerful givers are willing to share. They have open hands, not tight fists. When you're generous and willing to share, you show God that you love Him and want to please Him. God cares about what you have and that you **[Bottom Line] use your money wisely**. But He also cares about what you are willing to give away. This week, look for ways to be generous. Open your hands and share what you have with someone else."

**All Service Times**

**Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Review today's Bottom Line before you pray: **[Bottom Line] Use your money wisely.**
- Ask kids to stand or kneel with open hands and palms up as you pray.

**What You Say:**

"Jesus, please help us to be cheerful givers who open our hands and share what we have with others. We know that everything belongs to You. Thank You for giving so many good things. Amen."

*Parent Cue*