

Someone's Gotta Give

Bible: Someone's Gotta Give (Be rich principle) • *1 Timothy 6:18*

Bottom Line: Look for creative ways to give.

Memory Verse: "Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. *1 Timothy 6:18, NIV*

Life App: Generosity—Making someone's day by giving something away

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

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

9:00 & 11:30

Spy It

- Cardstock
- Markers

10:15

Early Arriver

- No supplies needed

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)

All Service Times

Happy Trails to You

- Anti-bacterial wipes
- Serving gloves
- Snack-sized plastic baggies
- Gluten-free
 - Cheerios®
 - Frosted Cheerios
 - Honey Nut Cheerios
- Raisins
- Milk chocolate chips
- White chocolate chips
- 6 bowls
- 6 3-oz. paper cups

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

- Trail mix baggies from "Happy Trails to You" activity

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

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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, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to give your group creative and fun ideas for ways they can be generous and rich in good deeds. Pray that God would remind you of ways your few can use their time, talents, and energy to be generous toward others. Thank God for giving you that opportunity through leading your group.

9:00 & 11:30

Spy It

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Half sheets of cardstock, markers

What You Do:

- Engage kids in a conversation about things you can give other people that don't cost much money, like a smile, a hug, kind words, or doing something nice for them.
- Give a piece of cardstock to each kid and set markers out where everyone can reach them.
- Ask kids to draw a few simple illustrations of some of the things the group just talked about, like a hand reaching out for a hug, a smile, a video game (which can be played with someone to keep them company), a rake or vacuum, etc.
- After a couple minutes of drawing, gather kids together in a circle and instruct them to hold their drawings so everyone can see them.
- Play a game of "I Spy" with the things in the pictures. For example, if someone drew arms that are giving a hug, a kid could say, "I spy something . . ." and then insert the color of the shirt in the picture.

What You Say:

"It was super fun playing 'I Spy' in a new way! You also came up with some good ideas of things that don't cost much money but that people will love getting anyway. **[Transition] Today in Large Group, we are going to hear about what Jesus tells us about how much gifts need to cost.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

10:15**Early Arriver Idea***Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding***What You Need:** No supplies needed**What You Do:**

- Talk to kids about their favorite traditions around Christmas. Ask:
 - What's something you do every year around Christmas time?
 - What's something you do as a family in December?
 - How does gift giving work? Do you open gifts Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? Do you buy your own gifts for your siblings?
 - Do you usually go to someone's house or have certain people to your house?
 - What are you most looking forward to in the weeks leading up to Christmas?

What You Say:

"You guys have some fun gift traditions. **[Transition]** Today in Large Group, we are going to hear about what Jesus tells us about how much gifts need to cost."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Over-the-top Christmas outfit for Host
- Large, wrapped box
- 1 spool of 2-inch Christmas ribbon
- 3 empty cube-shaped tissue boxes
- 15 small unbreakable Christmas ornaments
- Wrapping paper

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- Bible

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- "Hosanna Rock"
- "Go tell It"
- "Down to Earth"

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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 Christmas high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Theme Slide

Host enters wearing his over-the-top Christmas attire.

Opener

HOST: "Hello, friends! My name is [Host's name], and I want to welcome one and welcome all to The Fort, the coolest place on earth! Everybody rub your shoulders and say, 'Brrrrrr. It's so cool, we're cold up in here!'"

HOST and KIDS: "Brrrr! It's so cool, we're cold up in here."

HOST: "Ohhh, yeahhhh. Speaking of cool, we've got a super cool Life App this month. Raise your hand if you remember what it is. *(Pause.)* Okay, let's see if you're right. On three, I want everyone to yell out what we're talking about this month. Ready? One, two, three. *(Hold hand to ear and pause for response.)*

CG: Generosity Slide

"If you said generosity, you are correct! If you've missed any of the last couple of weeks, don't worry; we've got you covered. Generosity is making someone's day by giving something away. Let's read it together."

HOST and KIDS: "Generosity is making someone's day by giving something away."

HOST: "I know what you're thinking: 'Giving stuff away? Wait a minute!' You may ALSO be thinking: 'I don't have anything to give away! I'm just a kid!' Well, I'm glad you're thinking that, because today we are generously going to give away the secret to being generous when you don't think you can be generous. But before that . . . *(point to the ceiling)*."

SFX: Upbeat Christmas game music

"That's right! We've got a game to play."

Walk to the wrapped box.

“This month we’re opening this this box and trying to figure out the name of the game based on what we find inside. But before I can open it today, I need your help. Let me hear you guys chant, ‘Open that box. Open that box. Open that box. Open that box!’

Kids should respond with “Open that Box.” You can encourage them to keep this up.

“Great job! You know what time it is? It’s time to open this box!

Open the box and take out a tissue box.

“Ohhhhhh, yeah! This is one of my favorite games *ever!* It’s called ‘Moves Like Prancer’! Who wants to play?

Choose three kids. Have them come up on stage, and introduce them to the rest of the group.

“Okay, here’s how we play ‘Moves Like Prancer.’ Each Prancer Dancer will have a box tied around their waist, with the boxes on their backs. Inside each box are five Christmas ornaments. When I say go, the Prancer Dancers are going to have use their most creative dance moves to dance the ornaments out of their box. The first to get all five out is the winner. Make sense? Any questions? Great. On your marks, get set, dance like Prancer!

SFX: Turn music up

Cheer on the contestants and use the word “creative” as much as possible. If the game drags on, feel free to knock out a few ornaments on your own. When the first person gets all their ornaments out of their box, the buzzer should ring.

SFX: Buzzer

“Those were some creative moves, guys. But it looks like [winner’s name] is our winner today! You definitely had some moves like Prancer. Let’s give them all a hand! Great job!

Dismiss kids back to their seats.

“All right, everybody! Please give a warm welcome to [Historyteller’s Name]. It’s Bible time!”

Host exits as Historyteller enters.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Hey, everyone! Hope you’re having an amazing Sunday! All month, we’ve been learning a verse. Can anyone tell me where we can find that verse in the Bible? *(Take responses.)* Awesome! That’s right: 1 Timothy 6:18. Let’s say this together.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

HISTORYTELLER and KIDS: *“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. (NIV).”*

HISTORYTELLER: “That’s great! Now, you may know this already, but this verse is part of a letter Paul wrote to his friend Timothy. This letter became the book of 1 Timothy in the New Testament.

“Two words in that verse might stand out to you: ‘be rich.’ If you were to ask someone what it means to be rich, what do you think they might tell you? *(Take responses.)* Yeah, they’d probably tell you being rich means you have lots of money, stuff, fancy cars, and mansions at the beach. But that’s not what Paul meant when he used the phrase ‘be rich.’ So what did he mean?

“Last week, we saw how life isn’t about having lots of stuff. Instead, life is more about taking every chance God gives us to be generous. Paul is talking about being rich with how we live and treat those around us.

“But sometimes we think that we’re too young to help people in need. We don’t have a lot ourselves, and we aren’t sure how we can share what we have with others. When you look at this verse, though, Paul is helping us understand that there are lots of ways we can be rich in God’s eyes: doing good, being generous, and being willing to share. Let’s take some time to talk through what this might look like for you.”

DO GOOD**CG: Lauren’s Scenario**

HISTORYTELLER: “Lauren’s mom is frantically running all over the house trying to get ready for a Christmas party. She has cookies to bake, beds to make, floors to clean, presents to wrap, and a few last-minute decorations to hang. While Lauren is watching her favorite TV show, her mom comes into the living room with the vacuum cleaner and interrupts Lauren’s show. Okay, time out. Lauren has a few different options for how she can respond.

CG: Lauren’s Options

“Lauren could turn the TV volume up so she can hear her show over the vacuum. Lauren could throw a fit because her mom interrupted her favorite show. Or Lauren could pause her show and offer to help get ready for the party. Before we find out, let’s take another look at our verse from 1 Timothy.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. (1 Timothy 6:18 NIV). Now, what do you think Lauren should do? *(Pause for response.)* While it would be hard to pause her favorite show, I think you’re right that she should help her mom. Raise your hand if you have a creative idea as to how Lauren could help get ready for the party. *(Call on a few kids to share their ideas.)* Let’s see what Lauren did.

CG: Lauren’s Decision

“Lauren offered to finish vacuuming and to even sweep the rest of the floors and make all the beds. It was a lot of work, but Lauren was glad to give to her mom in a creative way. Lauren was rich by doing what is good, just like Paul talks about in 1 Timothy.”

GIVE FREELY

HISTORYTELLER: “We also have opportunities to give to others. Let’s look at another scenario that could happen to you no matter what time of year.

CG: Mitch’s Scenario

“One morning, while Mitch was getting on the school bus, he tripped up the stairs and fell. Many of the kids laughed at him, including his best friend. Mitch was really embarrassed, and his friend continued to make fun of him all the way to the school. Mitch had to choose how he was going to respond to his friend.

CG: Mitch’s Options

“Mitch could be mean back and make fun of his friend, call his friend a name, and yell it so loud the whole bus heard. That’d be one option, or Mitch could ignore his friend the rest of the day and pretend like they weren’t even friends at all. Or Mitch could practice what Paul talks about in this verse and find a way to freely give his friend forgiveness. What do you think Mitch should do? *(Pause for a response.)* Let’s see what Mitch decided.

CG: Mitch’s Decision

“Even though his feelings were hurt, Mitch decided to forgive his friend. Mitch even decided to go above and beyond and show his friend kindness. At lunch, Mitch gave his friend a cookie from the lunch his mom had packed for him. Even though his friend didn’t really deserve it, Mitch still forgave his friend and showed generosity.”

SHARE WILLINGLY

HISTORYTELLER: “Great! Let’s look at one last situation where you might find yourself.

CG: Colin’s Scenario

“Colin’s little brother has a Christmas wish list that seems to go on forever. Colin wants to get his brother something he’d really like, but he doesn’t have any money. So Colin has to make a choice.

CG: Colin’s Options

“Colin could give up and not get his brother anything; there’s always next year. Colin could think of a creative gift his brother would like that wouldn’t cost any money. Or Colin could make it secretly look like one of the gifts under the tree was actually from him. Remembering 1 Timothy 6:18, what do you think Colin should do? *(Pause for a response.)* I agree, I think it would be great if Colin thought of some creative gift ideas that didn’t cost him any money at all. If you were Colin, what could you get for your little brother? *(Call on a few kids to share their ideas.)* Let’s see what Colin decided.

CG: Colin’s Decision

“Colin looked at his brother’s wish list again. He noticed a video game that Colin already owned but never let his brother play. Colin knew what to do. He wrapped his own video game and included a note that from now on they would always play it together.

“That was a great gift, huh? You know, each one of us can look for creative ways to give by doing good, being generous, and being willing to share.”

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “No matter what we face, we always have the chance to give. Sometimes, we just have to look for creative ways to be generous. Lauren found a creative way to give to her mom by being rich in doing good. Mitch freely gave to his friend even though his friend didn’t deserve it by sharing his lunch. And Colin found a creative way to be generous by sharing his video game willingly with his little brother. That was pretty creative! Speaking of creative, let’s take a look at our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**Look for creative ways to give.** There are lots of ways we can be generous and practice being rich in a way that goes far beyond buying someone a gift. It’s about being rich in doing good things, giving freely, and being willing to share. Let’s pray together.”

Pray

HOST: “God, thank You for demonstrating what it means to give freely. Even when we didn’t deserve it, You gave Your Son Jesus. Help us to see creative ways to give to those around us and to be rich in doing good things. Help us to have a good attitude and be willing to share. Because when we give, we show others who You are, and we reflect Your character. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering with you today, raise your hand and we will bring the bucket over to you.”

“Now, up on your feet and be generous with your praise and worship this morning. Don’t hold anything back from God today!”

Power Praise team enters as Historyteller exits.

Worship

SFX: “Hosanna Rock”

SFX: “Go Tell It”

SFX: “Down to Earth”

Power Praise team exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: “You guys had some really awesome ideas about how to put our memory verse into action.”

“How about we take another look at our Bottom Line for today?”

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Look for creative ways to give. Can you say that with me?”

HOST and KIDS: [Bottom Line] “Look for creative ways to give.”

HOST: “Awesome! We have opportunities every day to be generous in creative ways. You don’t need a ton of money, either. You can give someone your time, your talents, and your energy. You just have to get creative, that’s all. Look for ways to love each other that don’t cost you anything. Be rich in doing good things, and as you do, you’ll be spreading God’s love and kindness to the people around you. And those things can point people to Jesus! In Small Group, you’ll discover all sorts of creative ways to give not just at Christmastime but ALL the time. Have fun, and we’ll see you next time!”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.

CG: Small Group Slide

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Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible Truth applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

All Service Times

Happy Trails to You

[Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Anti-bacterial wipes, serving gloves, snack-sized plastic baggies, Cheerios, Frosted Cheerios, Honey Nut Cheerios, raisins, milk chocolate chips, white chocolate chips, 6 bowls, 6 3-oz. paper cups

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to use the wipes to clean their hands.
- Pour each of the food ingredients into a bowl and line them up on a table, assembly-line style.
- Put the plastic baggies at one end of the line of bowls.
- Put one cup in each bowl to use as a scoop.
- Line kids up at the end of the table where the plastic baggies are.
- Tell the group that they will be making trail mix bags to share with others.
- Instruct kids to grab a plastic baggie and put a small scoop of each item into their bag as they go down the line.
- Remind kids not to eat any of the food as they are making their baggies.
- At the end of the line, they should seal their baggie and leave it at the end of the table.
- Let kids continue to circle around and keep making bags as long as there are enough ingredients.
- When everyone is finished, tell kids they will be taking the bags of trail mix home to hand out to neighbors, friends, or people at a local homeless shelter.

What You Say:

"These bags you made could really make someone happy this week! Everyone should take at least one home and hand it out to someone who would like to have it, such as a friend, a teacher, a homeless person, or someone at school who is new or needs a friend. The items in these bags are simple and easy, but together they make something that could be a treat for someone and brighten up their day. It doesn't take much to let someone know you care. We don't have to have fancy or expensive gifts in order for someone to like what we give them. We just have to **[Bottom Line] look for creative ways to give.**"

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:** Trail mix baggies from “Happy Trails to You”**What You Do:**

- Have each kid hold the trail mix bag they made earlier.
- Ask kids whom they are planning to give their bags to. Encourage them to enlist the help of adult family members to take the bags to people who might not be in their immediate vicinity.
- Take about 30 seconds and ask kids to silently pray for the person they are thinking of giving their bag to.
- If they don't have anyone in mind, ask them to pray for whomever they would end up giving it to.
- Close with the prayer below.

What You Say:

“God, we pray that You will help us use these bags to bless others. Show us this week how to **[Bottom Line] look for creative ways to give**. We ask that You would help us to remember the wonderful gift You gave us when You sent Your Son Jesus to earth as a baby. Remind us to focus on Jesus and on loving you and loving others. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids who their bags of trail mix are for. Pass out Parent Cues and God Time Cards.