

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

Look!

- *I Spy* books

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)

9:00 & 11:30

Give Creatively

- "Spy It Cards"; 1 set for every 8 kids
- Tape

10:15

Ways to Give

- "Ways to Give" Activity Page; 1 for each kid
- Markers or crayons

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

- Strip of paper
- Crayons

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

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**Look!**

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

What You Need: *I SPY* books

What You Do:

- Set out the *I SPY* books for the children to look at and solve.
- Praise kids for their hard work and "brain juice" they used to find the different items.

What You Say:

"You guys used a lot of good brain juice trying to find everything in the pictures! ***[Transition]*** In Large Group today we'll hear about another way we can use our brain juices. Let's go learn more."

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:

- Guide kids to name as many ways as they can think of to wrap a present: in a box, with wrapping paper, in a paper gift bag, with a bow, with newspaper, in a plastic gift bag, etc. The kids' creativity is the only limit!
- If time allows, encourage kids to think about how they would wrap a present for a dog, cat, horse, shark, giraffe, dinosaur, turtle, or tiger

What You Say:

"You guys used a lot of good brain juice being creative about wrapping gifts! ***[Transition]*** In Large Group today we'll hear about another way we can use our brain juices. Let's go learn more."

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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
- Large Christmas-themed prop box containing:
 - Bible
 - Basketball
 - Feather boa
 - Sunglasses
 - Large mirror
 - Blazer/sports coat
 - Cell phone

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

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 Treehouse, 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, it's Power Praise time! Let's get them up here."

Power Praise team enters as Host joins the audience.

Worship

SFX: *"Hosanna Rock"*

SFX: *"Go Tell It"*

SFX: *"Down to Earth"*

Power Praise team exits as Host retakes the stage.

HOST: "That is one of my favorite times of the week! Hey, 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!”

Historyteller enters as Host exits.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Hey, hey, friends! How we doing? *(Pause for response.)* Guys and gals, can you believe we’re already THREE weeks into December? It’s crazy! It won’t be long until we’re celebrating my favorite day ever. Can you guess what day that is? *(Pause for response.)* Yes, yes! We’re getting closer and closer to Christmas.

“Christmas means all kinds of fun stuff. I want to hear from you. What’s your favorite part of Christmas? *(Take a few responses.)* Those are great ideas! Yeah, Christmas can be mean different things to different people. Christmastime brings with it family, food, gifts, traveling, pretty lights, gingerbread houses, cookies, hot chocolate . . . I could go on and on. Christmas is the best!

“Raise your hand if you think Christmas is by far the best holiday of the entire year. *(Pause for response.)* I’m with you. I LOVE Christmas!

“But can I tell you something super important? It’s something so important that if we don’t talk about it then we’re not really celebrating Christmas the way it was meant to be celebrated.

“Here it is: Christmas isn’t about us. I know, that might be shocking to hear! It could be that a parent or grandparent or your Small Group Leader has reminded you that Christmas is really about someone else. And who is that someone? *(Pause for response.)* Jesus! Right. On Christmas, we celebrate Jesus’ birthday. But with all of the Christmas presents, Christmas cookies, and Christmas specials on Netflix®, sometimes we forget that.

“But what if I told you that there’s even MORE that we sometimes forget about Christmas? And it has something to do with the verse we’re memorizing this month.”

SCRIPTURE READING

Pull the Bible out of the prop box.

HISTORYTELLER: “Many of you already know this, but you can find the verse in 1 Timothy 6:18. *(Hold up Bible.)* The book of 1 Timothy was originally a letter from a pastor named Paul to a younger pastor named—you guessed it—Timothy! Paul was helping Timothy with how to lead people who were just starting to follow and believe in Jesus. Let’s check it out together. *(Open Bible and read directly from 1 Timothy 6:18.)*

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share (NIV).
How about we read it together?

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

HISTORYTELLER: “Now, wait a minute. WHO is supposed to do what is good? WHO is supposed to be generous? WHO is supposed to share? Well, let’s take a look at the verse that comes before this one. 1 Timothy 6:17 reads:

CG: 1 Timothy 6:17

‘Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.’

HISTORYTELLER: “I’m going to go back and read the first 5 words: ‘Command those who are rich.’

“So, who is Timothy supposed to command?”

“Okay, so it’s ‘the rich’ who are supposed to do these things. I wonder who Paul is thinking about when he talks about rich people. I bet if we can figure out who these rich people are, we can also figure out how we can put this verse into action. Let’s figure this out together.”

RICH PEOPLE

Pull the basketball out of the prop box.

HISTORYTELLER: “I don’t know about you, but when I think about people who I think are rich, I immediately think of professional athletes. Many of them are super rich, aren’t they? Basketball players, soccer players, baseball players, football players: all rich. Let’s hear some of your favorite athletes. *(Take a few responses.)* Yes. Professional athletes are known for making a lot of money. I guess Paul could be talking about people like that, but pro athletes aren’t the only people who seem rich, right? Who else would you consider rich?”

Replace the basketball and take out a feather boa and glasses. Put them on.

“How about the people we see on TV every day—the actors and actresses who make movies and TV shows? Maybe even some YouTube® celebrities you see from time to time on the Internet. Many of them seem to make a lot of money, right? So, yeah, I’d consider them rich, and they would definitely be included in the people Paul is talking about in this verse.

Replace the boa and glasses. Put on the blazer and hold up the cell phone.

“Oooh, I know. How about all of those people who own companies and run businesses? Not just regular old bosses, but the bosses’ bosses! Many of them work hard get paid very well. We can put them in the rich category, for sure!

SFX: Cell phone ring

(Answer phone in “distinguished” voice) “Hello, I’m a super-busy, super-important boss making super amounts of money. You’ll need to call me back. What? *(Embarrassed)* Oh. Hi, Mom. Yeah, can I call you back? Sorry about that. Thanks, bye.”

Replace all the props. Take out the mirror, but don’t turn it around yet.

YOU’RE RICH, TOO

HISTORYTELLER: “Athletes, celebrities, and business executives are rich. They have a lot of money and access to all sorts of things like homes and cars and vacations because of that. So when Paul said, ‘Command those who are rich,’ he was definitely talking about these people. But did you know that there’s another group of people who Paul would consider rich?”

Turn mirror around. Walk to where the audience can see themselves in it.

“What if I told you that YOU’RE also part of the group of people Paul was talking about? Like athletes, actors, and bosses, you’re rich, too. Now, you may not have a ton of money, fancy homes, or expensive cars, but if you have food to eat and a roof over your head, did you know that you have more than most of the world does? It’s true! You are rich!

“If you have anything at all, you have enough to ‘be rich.’ You know why? Well, let’s read our verses again. This time, pay attention to the three things it tells us to do.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Command them to do good. (Hold up one finger.) to be rich in good deeds. (Hold up two fingers.) and to be generous (Hold up three fingers.) and willing to share (1 Timothy 6:18 NIV).”

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “So, what are our three things? One: Do good things. Two: Be generous. Three: Be willing to share.

“That’s what the Bible commands us to do. Basically, we’re supposed to be generous and give to others. And there are ALL SORTS of ways to do that. It’s like our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Look for creative ways to give. Let’s say that together.”

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

HISTORYTELLER: “You can be rich and give of your time when you help and serve others. You can be rich and give some of your money to people in need. You can be rich by how you treat others the way you want to be treated. There are so many ways you can be rich! How about we pray and ask God to help us figure out how we can be rich and creatively give to others?”

Pray

HISTORYTELLER: “God, thank You for all you’ve given us. We may not feel rich, but You take care of us. You give us what we need. Help us to use what we have—no matter how little or how big—to help others. That’s what You did when You sent us Jesus: You did good, You gave freely, and You were willing to share Your one and only Son. We pray this in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering, please bring that on up to put in the offering bucket now.”

Historyteller exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: “Okay, okay, I know what many of you are thinking: ‘How can I be rich? I’m just a kid! How can I be generous when I have nothing to be generous with?’ But no matter who you are or what you have, you CAN be generous. It might just take some creativity. That’s what our Bottom Line is all about. Let’s look at it one more time.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**Look for creative ways to give.** Let’s think about this for a moment. Are you a great artist? You can give by making artwork for your local children’s hospital. Are you good at cleaning or organizing? Volunteer to help a neighbor clean out their garage. Do you have some cool toys or clothes that you really don’t use anymore? Ask your parents to help you find someone to donate them to.

“Because if you really want to celebrate Christmas, you’ll look for AND FIND creative ways to give. You’ll talk more about this in Small Group and figure out all sorts of ways you can be creative with how you give to others. Have fun together, and we’ll see you next week!”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.

CG: Small Group Slide

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.

9:00 & 11:30**Give Creatively**

What You Need: "Spy It Cards" (Activity Pages), tape, Christmas music

What You Do:

- Guide kids to stand in a line, shoulder to shoulder.
- Tape a "Spy It Card" to the back of each child.
- Play the Christmas music and guide the kids to mingle around your environment.
- As they move, call out a riddle describing one way they can give (see below).
- Guide kids to find the picture that matches the clues and stay by that child.
- Continue until the kids solve every riddle.
- Riddles:
 - When you give this way, you're helping others. You might do this as school, at church, or at home. You might do this after a meal or snack. You'll need a clean cloth to give this way. (wiping a table)
 - When you give this way, you're spending time with others. You might do this when someone is sad or sick; you might do it with a younger brother or sister. Many people do this when they're sitting down. You'll need a book to give this way. (reading to others)
 - When you give this way, you're using your talents for others. You might do this for someone at Christmas. You'll need pencil, markers, crayons, or paint to give this way. (drawing or painting a picture)
 - When you give this way, you're helping others. You might do this for a neighbor or for your mom and dad. You do this in the winter. You'll need a shovel to give this way. (shoveling snow)
 - When you give this way, you're spending time with others. You might do this with your brother or sister even though you'd rather be doing something else. To give this way you'll need a game or toy. (playing with a sibling)
 - When you give this way, you're using your talents for others. You might do this at Christmas for your family, or you might do it for others. This is something you practice. To give this way you'll need an instrument. (playing an instrument)
 - When you give this way, you're helping others. You might do this at home. Many people don't enjoy doing this. You'll need a trash bag to give this way. (emptying the trash)
 - When you give this way, you're spending time with others. You might do this with a grandparent. You might do this every day, or you might do this only every once in a while. To give this way you'll need a phone. (video calling grandparents)

What You Say:

"You can give by helping others, you can give by spending time with others, and you can give by using your talents for others. God has given you SO many ways you can give. What is one way you can give to others this week? (Pause.) **[Make It Personal] (Share one way you'll give to others this week.)** So remember: **[Bottom Line] look for creative ways to give.** Because when you give to others, you show them how much God loves them, and that's a GREAT thing!"

10:15**Ways to Give****[Talk about God | Bible Review | Application Activity]***Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding***What You Need:** “Ways to Give” Activity Pages, markers or crayons**What You Do:**

- Distribute the Activity Pages, and invite kids to describe what is happening in each picture. Let kids take turns making one or two observations about the pictures.
- Set out the markers or crayons and guide kids to draw lines that connect the pictures based on the ways the people are giving.
- You might ask:
 - “Who is giving by helping? *(Pause.)* Draw lines to connect those pictures.”
 - “Who is giving by spending time with others? *(Pause.)* Good thinking! Draw lines to connect those pictures.”
 - “Who is giving by using a talent God has given them? *(Pause.)* Yes!”
- Encourage kids to think of other ways they can give creatively.

What You Say:

“You can give by helping others, you can give by spending time with others, and you can give by using your talents for others. God has given you SO many ways you can give. So this week **[Bottom Line]** **look for creative ways to give.** Because when you give to others, you show them how much God loves them, and that’s a GREAT thing!”

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:** Paper strips and crayons**What You Do:**

- Give each child a paper strip and a marker. Ask kids to write the name (or draw a picture) of someone to whom they’ll give creatively this week.
- Guide kids to touch the name or drawing of the person they chose.
- Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help the kids “be rich in doing good things.”

Give each child a GodTime card. Pass out Parent Cue cards as adults arrive to pick up. Encourage kids to tell their parents the way they chose to give this week or the person to whom they’ll give. (It’s okay if kids want to keep it a secret!)