

**Focus:** Jesus teaches us to share

**Materials:**

Prayer Altar: Cross, Candle, Chasuble on stand (priest's vestment) and Altar Cloth  
CD-Bible Songs for Kids Vol. 1  
Bible: The Bible for Children  
Foam heart  
Books: Best Night Out With Dad

**Gathering** (children find/sit on a carpet square)

*Say: Good Morning everyone, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. Last week we talked about when Jesus taught his friends how to pray using the Lord's Prayer, the Our Father. This week we will hear a story about a man who wouldn't share and how Jesus wants us to share with others.*

**Opening Prayer**

Together we make the Sign of the Cross (do in reverse so children can mirror).

*Say: Now let's put our hands together and bow our heads.*

*Let us pray.*

*Generous God, you give us every good gift. Help us to share what we have with others and to treat others with respect. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.*

*Amen.*

**Song/Movement**

*Happy All the Time*, track: 3, from Bible Songs for Kids Vol 1

Play music, encourage children to stretch or move to the music (clapping, stamp feet march in place to the beat), turn to each other and shake hands, saying hello, etc. Have children sit on their carpet squares when finished.

*Movement cues in brackets [].*

I'm inright [point in], outright [point out],  
upright [point up], downright [point down]  
Happy all the time [clap with each word]  
I'm inright [point in], outright [point out],  
upright [point up], downright [point down]  
Happy all the time [clap with each word]

Since Jesus Christ came in  
And cleansed my heart from sin...  
I'm inright [point in], outright [point out],  
upright [point up], downright [point down]  
Happy all the time [clap with each word]

(Repeat all three times, getting faster and faster each time, then sing the 2nd verse a fourth time to close)

**Memory Verse**

*Say: Now let's take a moment together to learn a verse from the bible.*

*Be rich in good works, be generous and ready to share.\**

Have the children repeat the verse after you a couple of times.

Say: *\*Note to Proclaimer: This passage is from The First Letter of Paul to Timothy.*

*In this passage we learn how Jesus wants us to live. He wants us to care for others and for God before our things and possessions. If we say we love someone, but then ignore them to play with our toys. Or if we always want more than what we have, we aren't doing what Jesus asks us to do. Jesus asks us to share what we have with others and not be concerned with getting more or having the most of anything. Having the most won't make us happy forever because all those things can be taken from us, but our love for God and our love for others always stays with us. Living the life that Jesus teaches will lead us to life everlasting with God.*

### **Gospel Story**

Say: *Today we are reading from the Gospel of Luke.*

Have children make sign of the cross on their forehead, mouth and heart saying. *"Lord, open my mind, my lips and my heart so that I may learn it, speak it and love it."*

**Read:** The Bible for Children, pp. 267, *A Story of the Dangers of Riches*

After the reading say: *The Gospel of the Lord*

Children respond: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

### **Discussion Starters:**

- *Why does this reading warn against greed (always wanting more)?*
- *How can greed turn a person away from God?*
- *What does this reading tell us about what is most important in life?*
- *What are the most important things in your life?*
- *How can you share what you have with others?*
- *How can you put God first in your life?*

### **Reflection on Reading:**

*Jesus teaches today that we are to share what we have and build up our treasure in God's love. God has given us many great gifts, our friends, our family, the stars, the sun, the rain. When we focus on the gifts that really matter, we will be happy.*

- *What are you most thankful for?*
- *Do you thank God for what you have been given?*
- *Do you share what you have with others?*
- *Have you ever wanted something that someone else has?*
- *How can wanting what someone else has keep us from showing them love and respect?*

## Gospel Activity

### Activity 1:

#### **Love Go-Round Game**

Have the children sit in a circle. Hand the heart to one child and chant the following while they pass the heart around the circle:

*There's plenty of love to go around,  
The more and more we share.  
Where is the love that goes around?  
Where is the love, O where?*

When the verse is done, whoever is holding the heart shares something they can do to be kind to others.

(you can play a portion of a song from one of the CD's instead-for example: Jesus loves me, this I know, Jesus loves the little children, I am so glad that Jesus loves me-instead of the verse.)

Repeat as time allows.

### Activity 2:

Read the book, **The Best Night Out With Dad.**

Make sure you have enough time to finish the book as the central object of the lesson is in the final pages.

- How does Danny feel about going to the circus?
- How does Danny meet Vincent?
- What happens when Vincent and his father go to buy tickets?
- What does Danny do for the boy he just met?
- Do you think you could give up something you wanted so much to make someone else happy?

Complete the weekly bulletin as a group-let the children color them if there is extra time

## Closing Prayer

(Children respond: "I Believe!")

Ask: *Do you believe in God, who is gifts us wonderful gifts?*

*Do you believe in Jesus, who was sent by God to show us the way to trust in God's generous love?*

*Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the gift of God's generous love?*

## Sending Forth

*Say: Remember to 'Share the Wealth' this week. Do something that helps you share with others. You could make and decorate cookies for the shelter or make place mats for the nursing home. What ever you choose it is a way to thank God for giving us so much that we can afford to give to others.*

## Lining Up/Closing Song

Play "To God be the Glory" track 31 from Bible Songs for Kids Vol 1 while children put away any materials and lineup. Hand out weekly bulletins. Remind them it is important that they return to their family quietly so that we may all listen and pray together in church.