THE WAY OF JESUS

Memory Verse: **“So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19**
Weekly Big Idea: **How can we glorify God with what He has given us?**
(Answer) Jesus Connection: **We can glorify God when we give to others out of love and obedience.**
Bible Story Scripture**: The Widow’s Offering | Mark 12:41-44**

SERIES OVERVIEW

Hey guys! Welcome back to KXP! We have been looking closely at the life of Jesus. We have learned what God’s Church is and how important it is for believers to worship together. We have seen how special our communities are when we get together to study God’s Word and pray for each other. We can love and serve others just like Jesus did. Jesus is our example to follow in every way.

Let’s read our memory verse together. We’ve been working on it for a few weeks. See how you do– ***“So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19 .***
It’s important to memorize God’s Word to put it in our hearts and minds. Then, it’s there when we need it.

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Our Big Idea Question for this week is this - **How can we glorify God with what He has given us?**

Think for a minute about all the good things in your life. Maybe you are thinking of your family or your friends. You might be thinking of your toys or your room. There are so many good things – like church, Jesus, baseball, dancing, napping, and let’s not forget pizza!

In the Bible, the Book of James says, ***“Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the Creator of the sun, moon, and stars.”*** Every good thing in our lives comes from God! He loves you and me so much that He gives us what we need and gives us things to share with others. God is generous!

Today we will learn about a woman who gave everything she had to the Lord because she had so much love in her heart.

The Widow’s Offering | Mark 12:41-44

During the presentation of Scripture, use a physical Bible, when possible, to model exploring God’s Word together.

Today, we are reading from the Book of Mark in the New Testament. This book teaches about the life of Jesus and includes amazing stories of people who followed Jesus and learned His ways. One of these stories is about a widow, a woman whose husband has died.

Long ago, widows usually had very little money. It was very hard for women to make enough money to take care of themselves. Jesus loved to help people, like widows, who struggled every day. Let’s read about a widow Jesus saw in the Temple.

Mark 12:41 "Jesus sat near the Temple money box where people put their gifts. He watched the people put in their money. Many rich people gave large sums of money."

The Temple was a church for the Jewish people. In the Temple, there were several boxes where money could be placed. People could put money and other offerings in these boxes as a gift to God. This is like our offering baskets that we pass along the rows in the Big Room on Sunday. We can put money in the basket as a gift to God just like the Jewish people put money in the boxes at the Temple.

Jesus was sitting near the Temple, watching people put lots of money in the boxes. Let's see what happens next.

Verse 42 says, "Then a poor widow came and gave two very small copper coins. These coins were not worth even a penny."

Now Jesus saw a woman who had lost her husband and had very little money to give. Jesus knew that she was giving her gift from a heart that loved God. She didn't have much to give but she gave everything she had to God.

Let's keep reading in ***verse 43 "Jesus called his followers to him. He said, "I tell you the truth. This poor widow gave only two small coins. But she really gave more than all those rich people."***

To Jesus, this poor widow gave more than all the other people put together. Even though her gift was the smallest amount, the value of that gift was great because of the spirit it was given.

Verse 44 tells us, "The rich have plenty; they gave only what they did not need. This woman is very poor. But she gave all she had. And she needed that money to help her live."

The woman glorified God with what He had given her. God gave her two copper coins, and she gave them right back to God. She trusted that God would provide everything she would need. Now, that is a picture of gratitude and generosity. Jesus noticed and was pleased!

***Act It Out:** *Have a box at the front of the room. Gather a group of 3 kids. Give them each 5 pretend dollars. In a whisper, ask each of them to put only 2 dollars into the box. Allow them to do this one at a time. Ask the kids how much money they each have left. Then ask one girl to come up to the front. Give her 2 pennies and, in a whisper, ask her to put all the money she has into the box. Ask the girl how much money she has left. Highlight the fact that the first 3 kids gave only some of what they were given as an offering, but the girl gave all that she was given as an offering.*

LESSON CONCLUSION

Do you remember all of the good things we talked about before? We can give and be generous just like the widow with all of those good things. We can share time and love with our family and friends. We can dance or throw a ball with someone. We can take food to a food bank or serve a meal to someone who is hungry. We can give a coat or blanket to someone in need. We can even share a slice of pizza!

God wants us to use and enjoy the gifts He gives but He also wants us to share those gifts with others that He loves, too. PRAY FIRST and ask God to show you how to share the good things He has given you. Then give because you love God and want to follow Jesus' ways. I think we can answer that Big Idea Question now, don't you? **How can we glorify God with what He has given us? We can glorify God when we give to others out of love and obedience.**

JESUS CONNECTION

We can glorify God when we give to others out of love and obedience.

SMALL GROUP: REVIEW & DISCUSSION

This is a time to check kids' understanding of the Bible story and its Truths. These guided questions can spark minds to continue seeking understanding of God and His Son, Jesus.

Recall:

- Where was Jesus in our story today? *(Near the Temple)*
- What were people putting in the boxes at the Temple? *(Their offerings to God)*
- What did the widow offer to God? *(Two very small copper coins)*

Discussion & Application:

- How can you use what God has given you to honor Him?
- What is one thing you learned from today's lesson?
- How will you use what you learned this week?

PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for giving us good things like our families, church community, and Your Word. Please help us use these good things to tell others about Your amazing love. In the powerful name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

LIVE IT OUT CHALLENGE

This challenge will prompt kids to make the KXP lesson personal. It can encourage them to live out what The Bible teaches us.

Challenge: New Ways to Give

- **Leaders** – Talk with your group about the many ways they can give to God's Kingdom work and the different types of gifts they can contribute.
    - Time, talents, money, toys, food, clothing, encouragement, love, ideas, hugs, etc.
- Encourage the kids to **PRAY FIRST** and ask God what they should give and share with others.
- **Kids** – *(on a note card*) Write down or draw a picture of a few things you can give because you love God, Jesus, and others.