

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 1 • Unit 7 • Week 1

LESSONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT: THE WIDOW'S MITE

OBJECTIVE:

To teach generous giving through the example of the widow's mite.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies: Penny, nickel, dime and quarter (also bring a penny to give each student at end of class)

Do: Place a penny, nickel, dime and quarter on the table so that all students are able to see.

Say: I have placed on the table in front of you a penny, a nickel, a dime and a quarter. [Point to each one as you identify the coin.]

Ask: Which of these coins is worth the most? Which has the greatest value? Is it the penny, the nickel, the dime or the quarter?

If you could choose to have one of these coins, which would you want?

If you were going to give one of these coins to God in an offering, which do you think God would want you to give? Do you think it makes a difference to God? Is God only interested in the largest amount?

Say: Today we are going to read about a poor widow who gave an offering to God and what Jesus said about it.

BIBLE LESSON:

Ask: Who can tell me what a widow is?

Say: A widow is a woman whose husband has died.

- Do: Read the story of the widow's mite from *A Penny Is Everything* (Arch Books) or "Two Small Coins" from *The Beginner's Bible*, pages 450-453.
- Ask: Would you say God is more interested in how much a person gives or the attitude in which one gives?
- Ask: If the widow gave all that she had, how do you think she would buy food for dinner?
- Say: She trusted in God to provide for her. She showed her love for God, knowing that He would keep His promise to care for her. We must trust God the same way.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Have children complete the worksheet "God Provides."

Supplies: Crayons

- Do: Instruct the students to consider what God provides and ask them to circle all the pictures of things that God provides. The point they should learn is that God provides it all. If time permits, students may color the pictures.

Optional: Have children do the "Widow's Mite Word Search."

- Do: Explain that a "mite" is a very small copper coin—worth just a little.

MUSIC:

Sing "Shout Joyfully" (from *Sing-a-long Action Song*, 1998 Fairhope Kids, Integrity Music) or "Sing Songs of Praise to Him" p. 65 (or teacher's choice) from the United Church of God hymnal.

MEMORY VERSE:

Acts 20: 35b "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Supplies: Index cards or construction paper for memory verse
Flannel board, magnetic board or bulletin board

Prepare: Print each word of the memory verse (Acts 20:35b) on separate index cards or pieces of construction paper and prepare for flannel, bulletin or magnetic board.

- Do: Recite the verse together several times.

Take the index cards or pieces of construction paper with the words of the scripture on them and spread the cards on a table. Ask a student to find the first word of the verse and place it in position on the board. Have a second student find the next word, and so on. Continue until all of the scattered words are in order. (You may also choose to have the students sit on the floor and spread out the cards in front of them.)

Recite verse together again. Then see who can recite the verse by themselves.

Just before the children leave, give them each a penny. Remind them that the penny is like the widow's mite. (The "Ask Me" section of the Family Activity sheet will direct parents to ask the children about the penny.)

WIDOW'S MITE WORD SEARCH

Find the following words:

BLESSING
COINS
GENEROUS

GIVE
GOD
JESUS

KIND
MITE
WIDOW

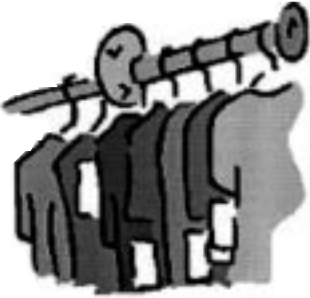
M	I	V	O	N	Y	Y	K	S	T	M	W	K	L
B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	I	N	U	S	P	Z
Y	J	I	T	E	M	X	Z	S	T	Q	M	I	X
F	E	D	B	P	G	O	D	R	V	Q	C	L	T
L	S	A	L	C	I	Q	C	P	F	K	I	N	D
R	U	T	X	P	V	W	I	D	O	W	B	M	H
V	S	G	E	N	E	R	O	U	S	J	V	Y	Z
M	I	T	E	B	V	T	S	L	C	O	I	N	S

TRUE OR FALSE

Circle T for true and F for false

- | | |
|--------|--|
| T or F | Jesus was impressed by a large amount of gold. |
| T or F | Jesus knew the hearts of those that gave. |
| T or F | God looks at our attitude when we give. |
| T or F | Jesus blesses those who obey Him. |

God Provides



Clothes



Home



Money



Bread



Bible



Work

Directions: Circle all the things that God provides.

family activity

THE POINT:

To teach the act of generous giving through the example of the widow's mite.

ASK ME...

- Where I got my penny and what it means.
- What was the value of the widow's offering to God?
- Why does the Bible tell us that it is more blessed to give than receive?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

- Plan ways that your family can set an example of giving.
- Spend an afternoon baking cookies or muffins for a shut-in or senior citizen.
- Have fun making your own cards to send to friends, the sick or the elderly.
- Designate a special "piggy" bank for your child to save money for Holy Day offerings.

Instructions: Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse, glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

-----cut along dotted line-----

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)