Lesson 69: The Widow's Offering

<u>Mark 12:41-44</u>

Youtube Link: https://youtu.be/3V6wq0mWtLQ

Children's Bible Story Video: <u>https://youtu.be/b7EMCaO2u9I</u>

Worship Theme: Give cheerfully to God.

Memory Verse: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2Corinthians 9:7)

Songs (Youtube links):

- 1. If You Are Happy and You Know It https://youtu.be/SsldqdQB-9U
- 2. God Never Fails Us https://youtu.be/uVqBqBENPi4
- 3. He Is a Special Treasure https://youtu.be/u8StIDwyAts

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: "Spoon Relay Game"

Materials needed: candy, spoon



1. Divide the children into 2 groups.

2. Ask the children to stand in line and give 15 candies to each group and give a spoon to each child.

3. The first child in the line will try to pick up a candy with the spoon in their mouth and pass it on to the child behind. Continue the relay until the last child gets the candy and put it on a plate.

4. The group with most candy wins the game. (You can limit the game to about 5 minutes.)

Introduction:

God has given us many gifts. The Bible tells us that every good and perfect gift we have is from God. Many times we think gifts are things that we buy, wrap with pretty paper, and give on special occasions. But there are also gifts of kindness and gifts of time or love. A gift can be anything you give to a person because you are thankful or love that person. God enjoys giving good gifts to us. Today we're going to talk about giving gifts back to God.

Bible Story:

One day Jesus went to the Temple. The Temple is like a church during the bible times. Jesus sat down where he could watch the people putting their offerings in big offering boxes. Some of the people Jesus noticed were very rich people who had lots of money. The Bible says the rich people threw lots of money into the offering box.

But there were many other people at the church who were not so rich. In fact, there was a very poor woman whose husband had died. She was a poor widow. She didn't have very much money. The bible says that she only had two small coins. The two coins were worth less than 100 riel. That is all she had because she was very poor. Jesus watched the widow take both of her coins and put them into the offering box. Once the widow offered her two coins, she had no more money.

Jesus saw the widow's gift, and he said that her gift was better than the rich people's gifts. The rich gave a little of what they had, but this widow gave all she had to God.

God was so important to her that she gave everything to God. The poor widow gave her gift cheerfully because she loved God. She didn't want to hold anything back from God. God is pleased when we give wholeheartedly.

Questions to discuss:

- 1. Where was Jesus on this day and what was he doing? (He was at the temple, watching people giving their offering)
- 2. Who actually gave more money? (The rich)
- 3. Why did Jesus say that the poor woman who gave 2 coins was better? (The rich gave a little of what they had, but she gave everything that she had because she loved God)
- 4. What kind of heart should we have when we give offering to God? (Thankful and cheerful heart)

Game: "Treasure Hunt"

Materials needed: Some prize (candies or cookies) for the children

- 1. Hide the treasure (the prize) before the class starts.
- 2. Ask the children to find that treasure, and they can keep it!
- 3. God gives us many gifts and treasures. We should give back to God with joyful hearts!

Memory Verse:

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2Corinthians 9:7)

Craft: Piggy Bank for God

Print from below. Instruction is on the printed paper.

1. Explain to the children that they can use the box to save money over the week to offer to God.

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.) Jesus isn't impressed with how wealthy we are because he sees straight into the heart-the inward wealth of faith, commitment, generosity, and obedience. He knows the real you. What does Jesus see in your heart? Are you fully entrusting your needs, wants, and future to God? What are you holding back? Pray to God to help you give up all that you have before God just like the widow.

Craft: Piggy Bank for God

