

# Giving My All, Big or Small

Lesson Scripture: John 6:5-15

**Bible Truth:** I will give what I have.

**Bible Story:** John 6:5-15

**Bible Verse:** “Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.” (Deuteronomy 16:17, KJV)

## FOCUS

### Learning Activity: “Small Things Make a Big Difference”

#### Preparation

Place supplies on a table where you can easily access them.

#### Presentation

Say: **Sometimes we think that bigger things are better than smaller things. Would you rather have a small cookie or a big cookie?** Show cookies and allow children to respond. **Would you rather have a small amount of money or a big amount of money?** Show money and allow children to respond. **Most of you would rather have the bigger cookie or the big amount of money. Even though we often want the biggest item or the largest amount, God isn't worried about the amount when He asks you to give to Him. God just wants you to give whatever you have.**

Show the container. Say: **In this container, I am going to pour a large amount of liquid.** Pour 1 cup or 240 ml vinegar into the container. **Now I am going to take this little spoon and get out a small amount of baking soda. (1 tsp or 5ml) Even though there is just a little bit, watch what happens when I add it to the liquid.** Add a small amount of baking soda to the vinegar and watch the “big” reaction. **Even though I only added a small amount of baking soda, something “big” happened. When we give God what we have, even if it is just a small amount, God can use it to do great things.**

#### Materials

baking soda  
vinegar  
measuring cup  
measuring spoon  
large container, clear if possible  
2 cookies, one large and one small  
2 amounts of money, one small and one larger

## SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Deuteronomy 16:17

### Preparation

Write Deuteronomy 16:17 on poster board.

Give each child a different amount of a small item. You might use small rocks, small candies, etc.

**Materials**  
small items to pass out to  
children such as rocks or candy  
2 cups

### Explanation

Say: I **have given you some rocks** (or name the item you gave children). **I would like each of you to place one of your rocks in my cup.** Allow children to place them in the cup. Continue asking children to place rocks in your cup. Several children will run out of rocks and won't be able to put any more in the cup.

Say: **Why did some of you stop putting rocks in the cup?** Allow children to answer. **You could only give what you had. Some of you had several rocks and some of you only had a few. Our Bible verse tells us that God wants us to give from what we have. Whether we have a lot of money or just a small amount, we can all give something to God.**

### Memorization Activity

Play a game similar to "hot potato." Ask children to stand in a circle. Give one child a cup to hold. Explain that when you start the music, they are to pass the cup around the circle until the music stops. When the music stops, the child holding the cup will repeat Deuteronomy 16:17. Continue the game until each child has had the opportunity to repeat the Scripture verse or until the children are tired of the game.

## INSTRUCT

### Bible Story: "A Boy Willing to Share," John 6:5-15, Matthew 14:13-21

### Preparation

Read and study John 6:5-15 and Matthew 14:13-21.

Fill a lunch bag with five pieces of bread and two fish. You can use pictures if bread and fish are not available.

**Materials**  
Bible  
lunch bag  
five pieces of bread  
2 fish

## **Presentation**

Before sharing the Bible story, ask one child to hold the lunch bag and sit away from the group.

Say: **Today I am going to share with you a story from the Bible, but I will need some help. Every time I say "Jesus" I would like for you to point toward heaven. When I say "hungry," rub your stomach.**

One day a large group of people followed Jesus to a mountainside. They wanted to hear Jesus teach and see Him heal people. After a long day, Jesus realized the people were hungry. They were really hungry! He asked the disciples to feed the people. The disciples looked at Jesus in amazement because it was impossible for them to feed all of these people. There are over 5,000 men and even more women and children. Even if they had enough money to buy food for all of the people, there was no where to buy food. They were on a mountain.

One of the disciples, Andrew, approached Jesus with a little boy. (Have the child holding the lunch you prepared come forward.) Andrew said, "Here is a boy with five small loaves of bread and two fish. But how far will they go among so many people?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and began to break the bread and fish into small pieces. He had the disciples start passing it out. The entire time the disciples were passing out food, the bread and fish never ran out! When all of the people had eaten as much as they wanted, Jesus asked the disciples to collect the left over food. They disciples filled 12 baskets with the left overs. The people were no longer hungry. Jesus took the small lunch the little boy gave him and turned it into lunch for over 5,000 people.

Say: **The little boy was willing to share his small lunch with Jesus, even though it didn't seem like much. Jesus was able to take the boy's small gift and make it something great! Jesus will do the same thing when you give your money, time, or possessions to Him. Even if you only have something small to give to Jesus, He can do big things with your gift!**

## **APPLICATION**

### **Learning Activity: Art Activity, "A Gift for Jesus"**

#### **Preparation**

Draw a large present on a piece of paper for each child. Be sure to leave the picture of the present empty.

#### **Materials**

one piece of paper with a present drawn on it for each child

## Presentation

Say: **We all have something we can give to Jesus. Can you think of something a child could give to Jesus?** Allow children to respond. They should mention things such as their money, their time, a talent such as drawing or singing, and even some of their toys. **How do you think Jesus could use your gift?** Discuss with the children how each gift they mentioned could be used by/for God.

Give each child a prepared piece of paper. Ask them to draw something inside the present that they want to give to Jesus. They can draw more than one thing.

## MINISTRY TIME

### Preparation

None

**Materials**  
none

### Presentation

Ask children to hold the pictures that they drew during the art activity. Pray with the children as they talk to Jesus about giving this gift to Him. Encourage them to finish the activity during the week by actually giving Jesus the item they drew on the paper as an offering. Talk with parents as they pick up the children and explain the lesson. The parents may need to help children as they follow through with their commitment.