



NO ORDINARY FAMILY TIME WITH GOD - WEEK 5

FOR PARENTS:

This week, we're talking about biblical stewardship or financial giving. Proverbs 11:24 tells us that the world of the generous gets larger and larger, and the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. As followers of Jesus, it's important to cultivate in your family an attitude of generosity. So, before you start, be ready to talk about a time you gave generously to someone in need, or when someone gave sacrificially to you to meet your needs. Real life examples motivate. We are praying for you as you lead your family this week!

WEEK 5 TRUTH FOR LIFE

God wants us to generously give to others because of our love for him.

THINGS YOU NEED:

- **A Bible** (preferably a Bible for every member of the family)
- **Two quarters** (If you have little ones who might put the coins in their mouths, consider using dollar bills)
- **A jar, a piece of paper, tape, scissors, and a marker**

FAMILY TIME WITH GOD

Begin with prayer: Father God, we are so excited to spend time with you tonight. We invite your presence to fill this room and our hearts. Help us to hear and apply your truth. Help us to be more than an ordinary family; we want to be a family who experiences and shows your love to the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We have a lot of good things, don't we? What do we have that you really like and are thankful for? There have been times where we didn't have what we needed and someone helped us out. *Parents, share a story of when your family was in need and someone helped you.* We are always thankful when God meets our needs through someone else giving to us, but doesn't it make you much happier when you help meet someone else's need? **Acts 20:35** says "It's more blessed to give than to receive." In other words, you're much happier giving than getting. *Parents, share a story of when another family was in need and your family helped them.*

Giving made a woman in the Bible happier than receiving, even when she didn't have much to give! Let's read **Mark 12:41-44** together. *If everyone has a Bible, have a contest to see who can find it first. When found, have the kids take turn reading a verse.*

1. Who are the people in this story? *Jesus, the widow, the disciples, crowds of people including some rich people.*
2. Where are they? *Going into the temple. The place where they worshipped God. Much like our church today.*
3. What are they doing? *Giving.*
4. Who did Jesus say gave the most? *The widow.*
5. How much did she give? *Two coins.*
6. **How is that the most?** *It's all she had! Everyone else gave less than what they had.*

For older kids: Give them 2 quarters. **Ask:** *Why would a poor woman who has nothing give everything she had? (She loved God with all her heart! She had complete faith that he would provide for her needs.)*

For little ones: Give them 2 quarters or dollars. Have them take turns giving their brother or sister the two coins. Talk through how it feels to give. Does God need our money?

Second Corinthians 9:7 says, "God loves a cheerful giver." God wants us to give, but not out of obligation (as though God will be mad at us if we don't give), but because it causes us to rely on him to provide for us as we bless others. Take a look at your quarters (or dollar bills). What does it say about God on them? "In God We Trust." When we generously give, we can trust God to provide for us, just like the widow did!

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: *Together, write the word "give" on a piece of paper, cut it out and tape it to the jar. Have each kid drop their two quarters (or dollar bills) in the jar and tell them for the next week you, as a family, are going to collect money in this "Give Jar" and then give it to the church, just like the widow her gave her coins at the temple. (If you feel led, start multiple "Give Jars." Some ideas: to label them "Give to Church," "Give to Others," "Give to Neighbors." Be creative.)*

Pray: Father God, thank you that you have blessed us with good things. We ask that you grow in our hearts a generosity that shows others the love of Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.