

MAIN POINT:

Just Choices.

God wants us to be generous and share with others

LESSON FLOW:

Opening Discussion	5 min
Activity	5 min
Bible Time	5 min
Kid Care Vids	1 min
Story	15 min
Activity	10 min
Discussion Questions	5 min
Prayer	1 min
Just One Day Idea	5 min

OPENING DISCUSSION: More than we Need

Can you think of a time when someone chose to have less of something so that you could have more? In Canada we often have much more than we need. This isn't true for everyone though. Lots of families don't have enough to eat. When we give our money or possesions to help others it's a great way to show generosity, even if it leads to us having less.

Did you ever chose less so that someone else could have more?

Here's a great example you may have tried:

In lesson 4 we suggested you only drink water for a day, and donate the money you would have spent on other beverages to CBM so that others could have what they need! If you did this discuss it with your Kids Care group.



Kids Care Vids: Download educational videos – created by kids for kids – to better engage your Sunday school students as you teach the God is Good lessons.

There are 4 videos - watch for the Kids Vids symbols throughout the lesson to indicate when to play them. *Please note, these are completely optional!*



Play Kids Care Vid Episode 5 after the Bible Time

Luke 12:25 New International Version (NIV)

Then he said to them,
"Watch out! Be on your
guard against all kinds
of greed; life does not
consist in an abundance of
possessions."

Acts 20:35 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus himself said, "It's more blessed to give than to receive."

ACTIVITY: Towers of Inequity

The goal is for everyone to build a tower. Give one third of your Kids Care group multiple blocks each and give other kids 0-1 blocks. Tell them that the goal is to build themselves a tower. Clearly, the ones with 0-1 blocks cannot really accomplish anything. After a few minutes of towerbuilding, if the others haven't shared, encourage them to share their blocks. God wants everyone to be able to have what they need. We can help others by taking less for ourselves so they can have more. Share your blocks with the others, so you can all build towers!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

How did it feel when you had all the blocks when those around you had nothing?

How did it feel to take less for yourself so they could have more (by giving them some of your blocks)?

BIBLE TIME: Better to Give Than Recieve

When someone is called "generous" it means that they are ready to give more than what is necessary. Maybe it's money, time, or something else. They are willing to give extra and they do it just because they want to, not because they need to. God wants us to be generous and share with others. He often chooses to give us plenty so that we can share with people around us.

What are some ways we can be generous by taking less for ourselves?

What types of things could we share? (Toys to play with others or giving toys to kids who don't have any, sharing food with people we know but also with food banks, giving money, etc.)

Read these verses together.

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

~ Luke 12:15 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus himself said, "It's more blessed to give than to receive."

~ Acts 20:35 New International Version (NIV

How do these Bible passages encourage us to be generous?

We are able to give money towards projects that help other people be able to live. Today we'll hear a story about a project that allowed a family to have a better life because people in Canada gave generously to the project. These people chose to have less money for themselves so others could have more.

STORY: A Healthy Body and Mind

Rabbits are a very cost-effective and non-labour intensive animal to raise, producing highly nutritious meat along with enriching manure which can greatly improve soil quality. Rabbits are also highly reproductive and grow rapidly, leading to a very profitable animal for a family to raise. This is the story of a family in Rwanda who have benefitted because others chose to have less:



My name is Kiriza from Lusheke Village. I am proud of the project for what has been done. Indeed, we learned and have gained so much from this project. After one year of saving money in my savings and loan group named UPENDO, I earned more than \$120. I have never dreamed of this large amount of money in my life. This money has helped me to pay school fees for my children. I also bought three rabbits and some vegetable seeds like carrots for my kitchen garden. My family's nutrition has greatly improved and we are able to have more meals per day than before. The project is an eye opener that has lifted me from grass to grace. I am expressing my happiness about this project because I can now make money from selling vegetables that I grow in my home garden. We are grateful to the church and CBM for offering us this unique opportunity to grow from within.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: A Better Tomorrow

Maintaining livestock or a farm is an empowering and dignifying means to strengthen families and to help them flourish. The income from selling eggs or selective crops can help pay for school fees, medication or other essentials. You can find more life changing gifts like rabbits, chickens or pigs at:

hopefulgifts.ca

ACTIVITY: Generosity challenge

Give your Kids Care group a handful of treats/toys/stickers/etc. (Something they can enjoy and maybe take home.) Divide your Kids Care group into two teams and draw a line across the floor. On "go", teams will compete to throw all of their reward items onto the other teams' sides. Set a time limit and at the end, see which team has more on their side. Comment something like, "It's so wonderful to see how generous each team was by giving so much to the other team. And isn't it so cool how we can bless other people by taking less for ourselves? Being generous might not look exactly like this, but it can be fun and feel really good!"

Let the teams divide up their objects and take them home.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How did it feel to try and give as much as you could to the other team?
- Why do you think God likes it so much when we are generous?
 (He likes seeing us help others, likes giving us opportunities to experience the joy of blessing other people, etc.)
- What are some other ways we can take less to give others more?
 How can we be generous to people around us and be more like
 God? (Giving some of our allowance to help others, sharing lunch
 with a friend who doesn't have any, giving toys to kids who have
 none.)
- What is one way you could be generous to a family member this week? To a friend? To a stranger?

For younger children you can find an alternative activity sheet "Sharing a Cake" from the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank.** This resource is now available for download at:

kidscare.cbmin.org

SNACK: Puff Puff

A very popular African street food that's quick and easy to make with different variations.

Servings: This recipe makes approximately 30 peices of puff puff.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups + 1-2 tablespoons warm water
- 21/4 teaspoon active dry yeast (1 packet)
- 3 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2-3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 tablespoon salt
- Oil for deep frying

Instructions:

- Mix salt, sugar, water, and yeast. Set aside for 5 minutes.
- Add flour and mix. Let the mixture rise for approximately 1-2 hours.
- In a large saucepan pour vegetable oil into a pot, until it is at least 3 inches (or about 5 centimeters) high (too little will result in flatter balls), and place on low heat.
- Test to make sure the oil is hot enough by putting a drop of batter into the oil. If it is not hot enough, the batter will stay at the bottom of the pot rather than rising to the top.
- Using your hands, grab a little bit of mixture at a time and drop in the oil.
- When the oil is hot enough, use a spoon to dish up the batter, and another spoon or spatula to drop it in the oil, sort of in the shape of a ball.
- Fry for a few minutes until the bottom side is golden brown.
- Turn the ball over and fry for a few more minutes until the other side is golden brown.
- Use a large spoon or something similar to take it out of the oil. It is recommended to place them on napkins right away to soak up some of the excess oil.
- If desired, you can roll the finished product in table sugar or powdered sugar to make it sweeter.



africanbites.com/puff-puff/





PRAYER:

God, thank you for everything you have given us. Thank you that we can share what we have, taking less so that others can have more. Please help us to find ways to be generous and share with people around us. Thank you for caring about people and giving us ways to share what we have. Amen.

Just One Day:

HERE'S AN IDEA: Give Generously

When you go grocery shopping and get something like canned soup, beans or other non-perishable items, get an extra one and donate it to your local food bank. Or if you have a case of food, donate some of those cans.

Why not try and organize a small food drive? Ask your neighbours to look in their pantry for an item they don't need. Ask them door-to-door or coordinate a time for your community to drop off food items to you.









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