



Younger IK Groups- PreK- 1st grade

January 29, 2025

Bible Story: Stealing- Exodus 20:15, John 12:1-8

Big Idea: We don't steal

The Win: Kids who can identify and take their next step of discipleship by embracing a preschooler's physical needs or engaging an elementary kid in things that interest them.

Wednesday Share:

Tonight during Impact Kids, we looked at Exodus 20:15 and John 12:1-8. God commands his people not to steal. Judas, one of Jesus' disciples, is the treasurer for the group. Instead of being responsible with the money, he secretly steals some for himself and then criticizes a woman who gives generously to Jesus, saying she's being wasteful. Help your kids see why stealing is wrong and replace a desire to steal with a desire to give generously.

Leader Devo:

<https://parkwaychurch.tv/blog/2025/01/22/jan-29>

Dig In to Prayer:

Ask God to help your kids have a stronger desire to give than to get.

Quick Tip:

When talking about God's Commandments, remember to keep your environment a judgment-free zone. That means if a child confesses he has stolen, make sure it's a safe place to share that without immediate condemnation. Instead, talk to the child separately about how God might want him or her to rectify the situation.

Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM

Low Energy Game:

Supplies

- 8-ounce cups (1 per child)
- cotton balls (at least 10 per child)
- upbeat music
- music player

Grab Them Up

Say: Today we heard that Judas was in charge of gathering money for Jesus' friends. Let's play a game and see how many cotton balls we can gather.

- Help kids form groups of five or six. Have each group gather around a table or sit in a circle.
- Give each child a cup, and spread the cotton balls on the table or inside the circle.
- Show kids how to use just their cups, upside down, to trap the cotton balls inside. (This is a little like the game "Hungry, Hungry Hippos.")
- When you start the music, encourage kids to gather as many cotton balls as they can inside their cups without using their other hands.
- After all the cotton balls have been collected, stop the music.
- If time allows, spread the cotton balls out again, and allow kids to play another round.

Talk About Sharing

Say: Judas took some of the money that belonged to Jesus' friends for himself. In our game, our friends lost some of the cotton balls they'd collected.

We may have wanted to grab those for ourselves. At times we might want to take other things that belong to someone else, like treats or toys. But we don't steal. Instead we can ask someone to share. Share an example of something someone shared with you recently, such as a friend lending you a truck, your sister sharing her favorite scarf, or your mom sharing her chocolate chip cookies.

Ask: Tell about something someone has shared with you. Kids may say Dad shared his dessert, a brother shared his toys, or a friend shared her markers.

Say: We don't steal. Instead, we can ask others to share with us, and we can share our things with them. Then we can enjoy our things together.

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch "Noah's Story"

Say: We're learning that we don't steal. But sometimes it's hard to know what's really stealing.

Ask: If you find money on the ground, should you take it? Explain.

Say: Let's see a story where that happened and two friends had to decide what to do.

Watch "Noah's Story."

Ask: What did you think about Noah's choices in this story? What about Jared's?

How would it have hurt someone if Jared had kept the money?

Say: We don't steal. Even though Jared wanted the money, keeping it meant a kindergartener couldn't afford a book at the book fair. Taking from other people is selfish. Instead, we can give generously.

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bible
- packing tape (6 inches per child)
- colored pompoms (about 10 per child)
- 8-ounce cups (1 per child)

Easy Prep: Spread the pompoms all over the floor or tables.

Get What We Can

Say: Today we heard that Judas wanted more money. There are times we want more of something.

Share about something you wish you had more of. It could be potato chips, nice shoes, or electronic gadgets.

Ask: What would you like to have more of? Kids may say stuffed animals, cookies, or toy cars.

Say: Let's play a game where we try to get as much as we can for ourselves.

For each child, wrap a 6-inch piece of tape with the sticky side out around one hand.

Give kids 30 seconds to collect as many pompoms on their tape as they can.

Encourage them to say "mine" with each pompom they pick up.

Give What We Have

Say: You collected a lot of pompoms. In that game, we were thinking only about what we could get for ourselves. But we also heard about Mary today. Mary didn't think of herself. She wanted to show love to Jesus by giving him a gift. If we're thinking of others, like Mary did, we don't steal. We give instead. Let's practice giving to others by giving our pompoms to our friends.

- Place a cup on the floor or table in front of each child.
- Encourage kids to pull the pompoms off their tape and put them into other kids' cups.
- As they do, encourage kids to say "give" with each pompom they give away.

Say: Judas cared about getting more money. When people steal, like Judas did, they care about getting something for themselves. But the Bible tells us to care about others and not just ourselves. Listen to this.

Read aloud **Philippians 2:4**.

Say: When we care about other people, we don't steal from them. Let's ask Jesus to help us care about others. Lead kids to pray and ask God to help them think of others.

Life Application:

Supplies:

- paper
- crayons
- basket

Draw

Give each child a piece of paper and some crayons. Say: Today we learned that we don't steal. Draw something you've taken that wasn't yours. Or draw something you've wanted to take that wasn't yours. Allow time.

Say: When we steal, it hurts us and others. That's one reason we don't steal.

Give It Back

Say: If we've stolen, we can give it back. Lead kids to place their pictures in the basket to practice "giving back" something that was stolen.

Say: We can also tell God we're sorry and ask him to help us not steal. Lead kids in a brief prayer, inviting them to say sorry to God for something they've stolen and asking for God's help to not steal.

Thank kids for coming to church, and invite them back.

Activity Page with a Point:

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: One of God's commandments is that we don't steal. But Jesus' friend Judas broke that rule and stole money! Let's color Judas taking some coins. Allow time for kids to color.

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: We're learning that we don't steal. Unfortunately, even though God made that rule for good reason, Judas didn't follow it. It looks like someone stole something from these pictures! Can you figure out what someone stole?

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will circle the items that went missing in the second picture.

Ask:

- How easy or hard was it to tell what was missing?
- I wonder if Jesus and his friends knew Judas was stealing money.
- What would you do if you knew a friend was stealing from you?

Say: We don't steal. Instead, we give generously!

Answer Key: Older Kids

