



## LOW-ENERGY GAME

### Keep Away, Give Away

[10 min]

#### Supplies

- sports balls (1 for every 5 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)

#### Play Keep Away

Say: **Our Bible story was about a woman who gave very generously to Elijah when he was in need. Giving generously brings joy, while never sharing and doing things only for ourselves doesn't bring real joy. Our game will show you what I mean.**

- Form teams of about five, and give each team a ball.
- Invite a willing child from each team to be the person in the middle who'll try to catch the ball as it's tossed overhead.
- The other team members will make a wide circle around the person in the middle.
- Team members will toss the ball back and forth over the head of the person in the middle to keep him or her from catching a pass.
- If the person in the middle *does* catch the ball, the person who last threw it will become the new person in the middle.
- If the person in the middle can't catch the ball within a minute, another team member will swap places to begin a new round.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.
- Monitor teams, and have them swap places often enough so that everyone has a chance to be the person in the middle.

#### Talk About It

Ask: • **What was it like to be the person in the middle who had the ball kept away from you?**

• **Why did it seem fair or unfair to keep the ball away from the person in the middle?**

Say: **Keeping things for ourselves and not sharing doesn't feel very good, especially if it means leaving someone else in need. For the widow in our story, that meant sharing the last meal she had to feed herself and her son. She knew God is generous, and she chose to give to Elijah.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time someone was generous in sharing with you and how that felt.** Share your own example first.

Say: **There are so many ways we can give, and with God's help we can give in big, generous ways that mean a lot to the people around us. Giving brings way more joy than keeping things for ourselves!**



**TALK-ABOUT VIDEO**  
**A Widow Shares**

[10 min]

**Supplies**

- “A Widow Shares” teaching video

**Discuss and Watch “A Widow Shares”**

Say: **We’re learning that God is generous, so we’re generous.**

Ask: • **What’s the most generous thing you’ve seen someone do?**

Say: **Let’s see how God and the widow showed generosity.**

Watch “A Widow Shares.”

Ask: • **Tell about a time you felt really hungry.** Share your own story first.

• **Imagine I’d asked you for food during that time. How would you have**

**felt?**

Say: **The widow wasn’t merely hungry; this was the very last bit of food she had. But she still shared! *That’s* generous. She did it because she trusted that God would be generous, too. And he was! She always had enough food because God is generous.**



## DEEPER BIBLE What if I Don't Have Anything to Give?

[15 min]

### Supplies

- Bibles
- "Giving Bank" handout (1 per child)
- paper lunch bags (1 per child)
- markers
- green construction paper

### Easy Prep

- Cut the green construction paper into rectangles that are roughly 2½x6 inches (the approximate size of a dollar bill). You'll need 9 pieces per child.

### Make Bank Bags

Say: **Today we're learning that God is generous, so we're generous. As we get to know and appreciate God's generous heart, it becomes more natural for us to reflect his heart by giving to others.**

**But you might be wondering: What if I don't *have* anything to give? After all, a lot of what you have really belongs to your parents...or at least isn't something they'd be happy about you giving away. Let's see what the Bible says about what you have that you *can* give generously.**

**But first, you'll need a bank bag to hold all the stuff you have to give away!**

Give each child a paper lunch bag. Have kids draw dollar signs on the lunch bags. (Don't spend a lot of time on this part.)

### Dig Deeper

Give each child nine of the green "dollar bills" you cut ahead of time and a copy of the "Giving Bank" handout.

Say: **Let's see what Jesus has to tell us about giving.**

Read Mark 12:41-44.

Ask: • **What do these verses show you about giving even when you don't have much money?**

• **What are some ways you get money or *could* get money?**

Explain that, since this passage is about money, kids will write "money" on their first dollar bill along with the reference "Mark 12:41-44." They can also write any ideas they had for how to earn more money to give away. Then kids will put their dollar bills in their bank bags.

Have kids form four equal groups. Assign each group two of the remaining Scriptures from the "Giving Bank" handout.

Say: **With your group, read your two Bible passages. Using your handouts as a reference, copy the quality (such as talents/gifts) and also the Scripture reference on four of your bills. Then add any ideas you have for how kids can give the things you wrote down. Talk with your group to get more ideas. Read your group's second assigned passage and do the same thing on the remaining four bills.**

Allow time for kids to read their Bible verses and make their dollar bills.

When groups are done, have kids form new groups of four, with one child from each of the previous groups. Kids will report to their new groups what they discovered and give a dollar bill to each group member as they share about that category. In the end, kids should end up with nine dollar bills that tell different things they can generously give.

**Ask: • Of everything you just discussed, what are you most excited to give generously?**

**• Here's a tricky question, so think on it! Which of these are things you can give away but still keep?** Examples include a smile, which you can give but still have an unlimited supply of.

**Say: Even if you and your family don't have a lot of money, you're rich! You have talents, time, kind words, love, helping hands, smiles, and obedience to give generously. And most of all, if you believe in Jesus, you have the best gift ever! You can share your faith with others and let people know about God's loving heart, which is so generous that he gave his only Son, Jesus!**

**The best part is, unlike money, most of these things never run out. You can give almost all these things over and over, and you'll still have that "money" in your bank. Just as God made sure the widow in our Bible story never ran out of food, God is generous and has given us more than enough to give generously to others.**



## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

### Giving Back

[5 min]

#### Supplies

- slips of paper & pencils
- basket or bucket

#### Give Back

Say: **God is generous. Let's remember all the things God gave us.**

- Give each kid a slip of paper and pencil. Ask them to write things or draw a picture of things God has given them.
- Have kids pray in groups, thanking God for the things they wrote as they uncrumple each one.

Say: **God is generous, so we're generous. Let's commit to reflecting**

#### God's generous heart.

- Allow time for kids to pray and ask God to show them each one paper slip that reflects how he wants them to be generous this week.
- Kids can ask God for help demonstrating his generosity as he leads them.
- If kids are willing to make a commitment to generosity, have them place that particular slip of paper in a basket or bucket. (They'll take the others home.)
- Don't pressure kids into giving up a slip of paper; a forced commitment won't mean anything.

#### Wrap Up

Pray: **God, thank you that you are generous. And thank you that you invite us to be a part of your generosity as we give to others! Help us reflect your generous heart this week. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.



## ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT

### The Last Piece

[10 min]

#### Supplies

- “A Widow Shares Her Last Bread” Activity Page
- pencils
- crayons

#### Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **God is generous.** Even though the widow thought she had only enough to make one more loaf of bread, Elijah promised her that God would generously give her more. So she was generous and shared with Elijah!

**In this game, you’ll try to be generous by leaving the last piece of bread for your partner.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will play a game like Matchsticks. Each row is one game.

Ask: • **What was hard about being generous in this game?**

• **When was a time it was hard for you to be generous?**

Say: **God is generous.** When we rely on his generosity, we can be more generous with others!

#### Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **God is generous.** He made sure the widow *always* had enough food! Let’s color a picture of her generosity as she shared with Elijah.

Allow time for kids to color.